expenditure than now. But, as indicated in paragraph 5 of the Proceedings, it is hardly worth while in our opinion to thrust a Municipality on an unwilling people. The proposal may, therefore, be dropped.

3. The request of the Kunnamkulam people to give them a Village Panchayat may be favourably considered.

Voting of Demands For Grants—.(*Cont.*)

Demand XVIII—Education—Rs. 11·58 lakhs.—(*cont.*)

President.—Have you cleared your doubts regarding the location of the First Grade College?

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—No, we were left in the same position.

President.—What I want to point out is that the question of locating the First Grade College has not been decided, and it will depend upon several circumstances. The most important is the facilities for getting good water supply. So we have not taken up that question of location for consideration as yet. I think that is the Government's position. So we cannot definitely say anything, until all the other questions connected with it are solved.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Was there not a promise that the College will be shifted to a spacious place like Anappara?

President.—Not that I know of.

Motion No. 118.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs.15,326 for the establishments of Director, Senior Inspector, Inspectors and Inspectress by Rs. 100.*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I withdraw my motion.

Motions Nos. 119—121.

Srimati T. Madhavi Amma.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 15,326 for the establishments of Director, Inspectors and Inspectress.*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 47,567 for establishment under "Direction and Inspection" by one rupee.*

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 47,567 for establishment under "Direction and Inspection" by one rupee.*

Srimathi T. Madhavi Amma.—This is to bring to the notice of the Government some defects in the Department of Public Instruction.

Sir, the first thing I have to point out is the injustice shown to women when appointments are made in that department. There are many poor girls, competent to hold such posts, having passed their S. S. L. C. Examination and Intermediate Examination, seen loitering here and there in search of employment

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

in that department, or keeping idle at home waiting for an opportunity to get a living, which, after all, may never come. The education imparted to them is such that they are fit for no other work, since they do not understand even the meaning of household duties, nor are they conversant with the household arts and industries. It is not likely that those girls could have heard of them in their school career. It will not, therefore, be out of place to ask the Government to appoint girls as clerks and attenders, if they cannot be appointed as teachers, for which place, I know, petitions have already been received by the Government. For instance, there is the Inspectress's Office with four men-clerks. The head herself being a lady, it would have been more appropriate to give her four lady clerks instead. In many girls' schools also the clerks are men. The Industrial School for Girls at Trichur keeps a solitary man in the clerk's seat. To such places, why not appoint girls, who are as able to conduct their work as men, if not more?

There is the reproduction from *Young India* about a resolution of great importance passed here last year and accepted by the Government. I hope copies of this have reached you, Sir, and the Director of Public Instruction. But *the Administration Report* of this department, supplied us fails to show what action the Government has taken in the matter of training children this home-industry-hand spinning.

The Dalton plan and the Court of Honour seem to have been introduced in the Sirkar High School at Trichur.—the former to aim at training boys in deciphering themselves without the intervention of teachers as far as possible. But may I know whether it is the intention of the Government to train them to acquire knowledge without materials also? I understand a lot of scientific instruments and other utensils are required for this system; each student must have one separate set, if it should be worked properly. And there is a balance of Rs. 58,100 kept by the Director for the last one year. But why are the boys deprived of these necessary articles, I don't know. If this plan is to work on like this for another year also, then, I need not point out to you, Sir, that it will have to be met with nothing but failure. A word about the Court of Honour also. It has already ceased to exist. Yet, we see these are inserted in the report, the progress or failure of it alone is not marked there. Perhaps those are there to show that certain new and substantial reforms are brought into force by that department for the year under review.

Now, Sir, about education itself. It has so much deteriorated of late as to become a blessing in disguise to those lucky to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

escape from the clutches of this new fangled education. It is better to have no offspring than have a deformed or decaying one. A friend of mine returning from a visit to one of our principal institutions remarked that the moral and emotional sides of education are absent in our boasted institutions, and that the methods adopted for training girls are simply ridiculous. Soon enough I discovered that this remark was not altogether unfounded. Reflecting on this for a moment, we realise the absurdity of our girls transformed into boys, both in sentiments and in manners. because the education now-a-days given to our girls hardly differs from that imparted to our boys. Again, instead of sowing in the young minds the seeds of sympathy, kindness, pity, love, modesty and other soft sentiments that constitute the real feminine virtues, our girls are forced, without their knowledge, at the instigation of the Head-mistresses, deaf to the cries of others, to take steps calculated to kill those finer feelings, bestowed by nature. Head masters and Head mistresses are given full discretion in all matters concerning this vital subject of education. But it is a greater pity still, that encouragement on these unhealthy lines comes from the responsible head himself, perhaps, unaware of its consequences. Anyway, the net result of all this sort of teaching is the entire absence of moral strength in the taught.

When requested at a public function to bring a resolution before this Council to take early steps for making moral instruction compulsory in all the schools of the State, I thought at the time that, this being the most fundamental part of education, it was not likely to have been overlooked by our Government. But, to my surprise and sorrow, I discovered on enquiry that the fact turned out contrary to my expectation.

I then sent notice of a resolution on the subject, which, to my disappointment, was lost in the luck-dip, thanks to the peculiarity of our procedure. In other Legislative Councils, as it is pointed out by the Hon'ble Member for Tattamangalam, the names of the Members are used in balloting, instead of the resolution slips employed here, thereby giving a chance to every Member for his say, at least once in the session.

However that be, it is not without shame and sorrow nor without hesitation that I rise to point out to this House, the Legislative Council of an advanced State, honoured as the first in India in the advancement of female education, a serious defect in the instruction of our children—the future citizens and the parents of the future administrators of the State—viz., the lack of that sort of training, deemed by all men and women, civilized or uncivilized, in all countries and in all ages to be the fundamental

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

basis of all the virtues resulting from real education. With this defective instruction we have now gone on for some years ; and as days pass, the mental and moral calibre, stamina, and staying power of youths deteriorate more and more, and unless we cry "halt" at least at this stage, the evil may soon get out of control, and national deterioration might set in, to the utter discomfiture and dismay of all. Thank God, our school days are over, for what is education without moral training ?

If we observe the march of events happening in the world for better or worse, we'll notice that the causes of those changes lie in something connected with the mind. The success of Germans was due chiefly to their high moral culture. But when once it was shaken, either owing to negligence on the part of responsible heads of their Government or because of undue licenses taken by the people wrongly conceiving the idea of freedom in their minds, the whole empire had to face the serious effects of a great war. Such is the action of the mind that it is not possible to control it and avoid various calamities and evils, if it is not well guarded by high principles and sound reasoning. Wherefrom are we to get them but from sound education ?

Besides, one of our important questions—the unemployment question—would have found on answer to-day, had the education been properly given. One of the many results that may have been derived from the moral side of education is a longing to stand on one's own legs by honest labour. If such a craving dawns upon a person's mind, it is but natural that he should seek some profession of his own in this world, in which he will try to gain mastery. This would give a good opportunity to the revival of fine arts, industries, agriculture and commerce in the State also.

Mr. Moir, Member of the Legislative Council of Madras, said that the drink-problem was one of the unsolved problems onw hich no agreement had been arrived at anywhere in the world. Laws had been made in all countries to stop manufacturing liquor and its consumption. All the Governments everywhere alike tried their best to put an end to illicit production and consumption of intoxicants by high taxing of the tapping trees and the gradual reduction of liquor shops and toddy-taverns; and people all over cried for temperance and total abstinence by asking the Government to close the shops entirely and to legislate not to tap the trees at all, with practically no result. But without having any enforced law or regulation, very few amongst the high class Hindus or Muhammadans—nay, the educated classes of all castes of people-take to this habit, because they are trained

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

to believe in the various evil effects of drink, and are restricted even from touching it from their early childhoods. Therefore, the only solution of this great evil lies in proper education. Temperance and total abstinence may be had from this, and this alone. The courage that Mahatma Gandhi calls upon Indians to exhibit is of a piece with this, distinguished by being on the moral place than in the physical sphere. He wants to build a nation of men of moral force—and women too—men, who seeing a thing to be right and essential, stand for it, as for truth, unheeding any consequence. No school canteen can produce such good results, nor can they help the candidates to get a pass in the examinations or better the condition of our girls materially. All the hue and cry raised on various occasions on account of the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the Education Department could have been avoided, had the Government been so good as to favour us by imparting true education to our children by keeping capable teachers in the department. We want competent hands to fill the teachers' posts, who can understand the value of true education and the necessity and methods of imparting it for the future benefit of their pupils. I enforce the word "true" before education, for every one knows that education has got two principal parts, the mental and moral training and the physical training without either of which 'strengthening of the mind and body,' and not teaching children merely to read and write.

It is said that the wisest of youths, though provident and cautious of evil, sails along unsteadily, as lacking some ballast of the mind; and the cause lies in this, that, as they look around and ward off dangers from without, they forget their own weakness within. Such has become the lot of our poor youths to-day—the depressed classes of the day—for want of moral instruction, Sir.

To expand the soul with high principles, to contract the wishes, to set a limit to the hopes, to form one's character in accordance with the high culture and civilisation he may get and to have all other beneficial effects of a time-bettering education, moral training is essential.

Such are the beautiful aspects of moral instruction, without which an education may not be called an education at all; and if we are to approach the Government with the request to introduce such an important subject in our schools, alas! we get this answer from the Hon'ble Member in charge, that it is left to the discretion of the Head-masters and Head-mistresses who were only subordinate executives and not judges in our time of education. See what he has said about it.

"Provision shall be made for imparting moral instruction in schools, attendance being optional. These classes shall be held once a week during the first or the last period.'

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

"At the Head-masters' Conference last year, the question whether moral instruction should be given was discussed, and the insertion of the amended clause was recommended by the Conference and sanctioned by the Government.

"We felt that something ought to be done to impart systematic moral education, and we passed a resolution to that effect. But in the Conference there was a difference of opinion. Certain Head-masters said:—'After all, if you make it compulsory in all classes, is it going to bring about really beneficial results?' What is absolutely necessary is that those who teach the lessons must beearnest, and believe in what they teach, and as Mr. Rama Ayyar pointed out, the most important factor of all is the personality of the teacher. So we finally resolved that it need only be introduced in schools, where Head-masters felt confident that such instruction, if imparted, would be really beneficial. Where conditions were found to be favourable, it might be left to the option of the Head-master to impart systematic moral instruction in the school. We made that recommendation which was accepted by the Government, and a correction slip was accordingly issued". Although a good big commen can be made over the above piece of remark and many a question raised, I leave them all at present, for want of time, Sir.

No doubt it would seem to be a little bit harassing to some and unnatural too in coming forward to point out this great defect in the policy of a Government which has earned a good reputation for the improvements done in this particular department. But I can show you, Sir, that it is not a difficult task so long as we keep our statutes and curriculum of studies as well as the administration in such an apparently ideal way for an onlooker's inspection or guidance, especially at a time when truth is kept in records more than in words or deeds. Who knows whether we carry them or not? If we are to be satisfied with the curriculum of studies and the kind patronage of the Head-masters and Head-mistresses, my only and humble request to the Government is that they may be pleased to begin the work of retrenchment in right earnest, from this very hour of the day by abolishing the posts of the Director of Public Instruction and various Inspectors and their office staffs, thus saving a sum of nearly Rs. 40,000 drawn by them as salaries and travelling allowances, and their separate establishment charges annually.

For these reasons, I ask the Government with due respect whether they have any objection (1) in getting the present system of education improved first, and enforce subjects of vital importance—moral training in particular—in all schools in the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

State, aided and unaided alike, by drawing a syllabus in strict accordance with the curriculum of studies, and work it out, (2) and to pay a little more consideration in the case of women, when appointments are made in that department.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Sir, I am in entire agreement with the observations made by the Lady Member, both in regard to the importance of imparting moral instruction in our schools and in regard to attention being paid in enforcing discipline. I am also alive to the necessity of employing qualified females in the clerical department, in the teaching department, and on the inspectional staff. Last time we had occasion to draw the attention of the Director of Public Instruction to the highly objectionable policy of employing male teachers in female schools, and during the course of a talk I had with him, I have come to know that he approves of the idea of employing female teachers in Girls' schools as far as possible. I believe, it is not very difficult to get qualified lady teachers for all our Girls' Schools and Girls' Colleges. The Government will be pleased to bear in mind that it is highly undesirable to employ male teachers in these institutions.

President.—The policy referred to is steadily kept in mind.

Mr. C. Matthai.—I shall state the policy of the department. So far as the employment of women is concerned, I think, we have steadily been pursuing a policy of encouraging the recruitment of women in Girls' Schools. As observed by the Lady Member and the Member for Trichur, there are certain Girls' Schools where male teachers are employed. But this is a matter which cannot be avoided. If we take the Girls' High Schools, there are certain subjects for which we have no qualified women teachers at all. Mathematics, Science, etc., are to be taught there, for which we have no qualified women teachers. It has been the insistent policy of the Government to employ, as far as possible, women teachers in Girls' Schools. In fact, the complaint has come to me from certain quarters, that, because I carry this policy too far, girls' education has deteriorated. For instance, my friend, the Member for Chittur, was just now complaining to me that in the Girls' School there, I have been carrying this policy too far, and he thinks that the instruction that is given there now is very much inferior to what it was in the olden days, when the school was staffed by male teachers. I am sure that, if Members of this House would go into the question, and try to understand what is actually taking place, they will be easily convinced that the department and the Government have been steadily pursuing this policy. In some

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Girls' Schools you may find two or three men teachers, but that is a state of things which we cannot avoid under existing conditions. Even though we have lady graduates in abundance, unfortunately, nearly all of them are History graduates. In Girls' High Schools we have other subjects than History to be taught, so that in that matter I may assure this House with perfect sincerity of the policy the Government have been steadily following, and the wishes expressed by the two Members have been the accepted policy of the department. And my attention was drawn to the employment of women clerks in certain offices. I may tell this House that I suggested to the Inspectress of Girls' Schools to take one or two qualified women as clerks. She objected to the appointment of female clerks in her office. She said female clerks would not be able to cope with the work of her office.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Experience elsewhere proves the contrary.

Mr. C. Matthai.—There is also another thing to be considered. There are four clerks in that office, where a solitary woman clerk cannot be entertained. So you must have other women clerks too. Even then I may tell this House, as regards the employment of qualified women as teachers, we are now carrying out this policy even in Boys' Schools. In the Lower Primary classes of High Schools we have begun to employ women teachers. Women are actually ousting men teachers in schools. They are very much better teachers of little children than men. So, wherever possible, we have been employing qualified women in Boys' Schools also.

Now, a word about the defects pointed out. I can only say that the department and the Government are more conscious of the defects than the Members on the other side of the House. We are conscious of these defects, but we are not able to remedy them all at once. We have got to consider whether efforts are not seen made by the department to improve the existing condition of things. As regards the moral training of our pupils, I have already assured this House that there is no aspect of education which is receiving so much attention at our hands. There is no other object of education which so much exercises the minds of our officers who are entrusted with the charge. As regards the suggestion made of compulsory moral instruction in schools, I do not know how far we shall be able to promote the real morality of our pupils by making such instruction compulsory. The first condition required is that the teachers should possess sympathy and love towards their pupils and a desire to improve them.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

We have to impress upon the teachers the necessity of this, with a view to improve the condition of the pupils that are entrusted to their care. Then only we can mend matters. This very vital question was discussed by us at the Head-masters' Conference, and the conclusion arrived at was that, by making it compulsory, it is not likely to produce the desired result. The one thing that we can do is to impress the importance of this question on the heads of schools so that they may do all in their power to improve the condition of the pupils under them by direct moral instruction as well as by other means.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I rise to a point of order. The total time allotted is almost over. There are yet so many motions on cuts, and the time is very limited.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The President has generously given him 20 minutes.

President.—Let him express his ideas.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Now, there are half a dozen Members standing up and criticising, and I am only one against six. (*Laughter.*)

President.—Your aim should be to confine yourself to important points.

Mr. C. Matthai.—I do not blame anybody. There is a general deterioration all round, and this fact is to be taken into consideration. And more than that it is a matter of sentiment; as for example, if we ask our elderly men, they will say that the kind of instruction they received in their days was very much superior to the instruction now imparted to their children. This is a natural feeling, and all of us feel like that. If you want a correct estimate of things, you should not be led away by mere sentiment. Again, in olden days, say 40 years ago, the whole State had only one High School, and it was not such a difficult thing to maintain that solitary institution at a high level. As schools were very few in olden days, the comparative efficiency of the staff was found to be very much higher than it is to-day. Now, we have got three Colleges and 36 High Schools. It is not possible to get the same type of men for all these institutions. All these factors are to be taken into consideration, before we make a general statement.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I am sorry that the time allotted for the Hon'ble Member for Education is over.

Mr. C. Matthai.—But the questions discussed are very important.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—There is nothing in this House which is not important.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I think it would be better for the official Members to answer all the cuts together.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Let the Hon'ble Members note down all the points, and then speak what they have to say.

President.—These are motions on which information is required. It is not necessary to put this motion to the vote. The thing is, when statements are made, the Members should make up their minds not to exceed the time allotted for them.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—I want some information, and may I ask for it? I understand that some money is reserved with the Government, the interest on which is to be utilised for the education of the poor Jewish boys. I wish to know how the amount is spent.

President.—How long has the money been with the Government?

Mr. S. S. Koder.—It has been with the Government for a number of years, and it is understood that the money is not being spent as desired.

Mr. C. Matthai.—I think it is being disbursed.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—That money is to be utilised for purchasing school books to the poor Jewish boys attending schools.

President.—Do you propose to utilise the amount for the purchase of books, instead of fees?

Srimati T. Madhavi Amma.—I am sorry to see that my motion was not put to the vote. Shall I withdraw the motion?

President.—Do you want to press it to a division?

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—The Government accepts the policy laid down in your motion.

President.—All these are good ideas. But there are difficulties in the way of carrying them out. Anyhow, all that is possible will be done. Mr. Matthai, did you at any time object to the suggestions made by the Lady Member?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I appreciate the suggestions made.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled a motion for asking the Government to utilise the accumulated interest on the amount left with the Government by Dr. Buchanan for the supply of school books to the poor Jewish boys.

President.—What is done with that money? Is it distributed as prizes?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I have a vague recollection that a certain amount is in the hands of the Principal. I presume that there are no qualified Jewish students who are forthcoming to satisfy the conditions mentioned in the trust.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Then, the fact could have been very well advertised by a notification in the Gazette, to see, if any application comes.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—I assure you that the money will be spent for the purposes for which it is intended.

Motion No. 122.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,324 for "Tutors, Demonstrators, etc.," by Rs. 5,000.*

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I rise to move for a reduction of Rs. 5,000 from the allotment made. I am constrained to bring this motion, because of the very unsatisfactory nature in which our College is worked, and the consequent enormous waste that is going on all round. The Hon'ble Members of this House are already convinced of the unnecessary expenditure incurred by the Government in not having decided about the permanent location of our First Grade College. This fact has already been embraced by the questions and answers that were raised. There is an impression that the First Grade College was started to find employment for some of our educated men. I am constrained to remark that, whatever may be the merits of the College, its working is far from being satisfactory. I shall take one or two examples, as the time is very limited.

A comparison of the History section of our College with that of the St. Thomas' will convince the House that we are wasting enormous sums on that one section alone. In the St. Thomas' College they have got 4 Lecturers in the History section. There is Mr. Joseph Pettah who is drawing Rs. 225, Mr. Nunez, Rs. 165, Mr. Narayanaswami, Rs. 105, and Mr. Joseph, Rs. 80, thus making a total of Rs. 575. I understand, if my figures are correct, that we have to spend about Rs. 920 for the History staff of our College alone. This amount is even more than what we spend for the English staff. Nowhere in any other College we find the History section being paid more than the English section. What is the advantage accrued by spending Rs. 400 more than that of the St. Thomas' College? I understand that last year about 128 boys left our College to join the St. Thomas' College. In the History section at present, there are 35 students in the Junior Intermediate Class, 37 in the Senior Intermediate Class, 47 in the Junior B. A. and 41 in the Senior B. A. Class.

Another important feature in our College is the duplication of the Economic Chair. There are two Lecturers in Economics, each drawing Rs. 200. The pay of the Economic section will alone come to almost all the pay of the St. Thomas' Lecturers, and this duplication of Lecturers for Economics is found nowhere in the Presidency. Mr. Joseph Pettah personally told me that he is taking all the Economics work of the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

College, and in addition he has four hours of work in European History. By the duplication of the History section also, a sum of Rs. 400 is wasted, as we require only two Lecturers with a salary of Rs. 200 each. In spite of all this, the result produced is far from satisfactory.

I do not want to take away much of your time. There was an opportunity for the department to reduce the expenditure when the Logic Professor was pensioned. I understand that in nearly 22 colleges of the Presidency, the Logic work is a subsidiary work of the English Tutor. On the retirement of Mr. Venkateswara Ayyar, the Ex-Principal of the College, a Philosophy graduate is also entertained as Logic Lecturer. If the work had been arranged to be done otherwise, the necessity of appointing a fresh man would not have arisen, and a saving of Rs. 100 could have been made. Personally, I have no objection to the appointment of any one in the College.

Another feature which is noticed is there are many Professors who have grown grey in the service without drawing the maximum, while there are others who have put in a small service and are drawing the maximum. I shall show about five or six cases in which the scale has been started on the maximum, and there is no meaning in this. But I don't want to read out the names of those persons. Of course, this could have been justified, if the maximum had been given to persons who had at least some experience in their work.

Another matter to which I wish to draw the attention of the House is the irregular manner in which the examinerships are being given by the Board of Examiners. There is a widespread complaint that this is given on the basis of favouritism. I do not know how far I am justified in saying that a Vakil of the Chief Court has been made an examiner for the School Final. I have nothing more to say.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—I am sorry I cannot agree with the previous speaker. I have my own objections with regard to this motion. I was surprised to see that the Hon'ble Member for Education did not refer to the important fact that the appointments of Professors, Assistant Professors, Tutors, etc., in the College have been made in pursuance of the minimum insisted upon for affiliation. I have been able to verify the figures, and I find that the staff employed in the College department is less than the minimum prescribed by the Senate of the Madras University for affiliation. There is no use of employing all these Professors, Tutors, if good work be not got out of them. To run a college efficiently, we must have at least the minimum staff. We want the College to be run

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

properly, and there is no use of maintaining an institution which is but deserving the appellation of an apology for a college. We want a college—the Maharaja's College. We have advanced very far in this direction, and it is not desirable to recede now. I cannot, therefore, agree with the observations made by the previous speaker with regard to the appointments in the College.

My objections relate to the vacillation of the Government in postponing the permanent location of the College. Amounts are seen provided every year under "Public Works" for piecemeal improvements on the existing building. It is high time for the Government to select a suitable site and begin constructing a model building, instead of putting up additional structures here and there. It is unfair to waste the money of the tax-payer thus.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, I wish to confine myself to one aspect of the question, and that is waste of public money. I am not competent to pronounce an opinion either in favour of the efficient working of the institution or against it. But I cannot express my regret for the fact that the responsible Government, after lavishly spending a large sum of money, have not yet decided as to where they should locate the institution. Sir, it is indeed a serious matter that even after 2½ years the Government have not come to a decision on this point. I beg to submit that the question of selecting a site has been unanimously decided by the Committee appointed for the purpose before the present Diwan took charge. The Director of Public Instruction was also a member of that Committee, and I understand that the Committee came to the conclusion that the institution should be located on spacious grounds, and that the only place available for the purpose was the Anappara site. I raise an emphatic protest against the utilisation of public funds for the benefit of only a handful of people in one part of the State alone. This is the complaint I bring forward against the department. I may say that it is not the right view of the Government to spend a large portion of the money in the capital alone, in matters like education. The College is an important institution, and it should be located in a place which is accessible to a larger number of the population. You remember, Sir, that the Director was pleased to observe that there is space for 10 or 12 colleges within the Municipal area of Trichur itself. I fail to see the attitude of the Government in sacrificing the interest of the whole State for the sake of its capital. I tell you, Sir, that the time has come to work for the interest of the whole State. One of the objections brought forward by the Government against the Anappara site is want of water supply. Why the Government has failed

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

to investigate this question during these 2½ years, is a mystery. There is a population of about 180 to 200 near the Central Jail which is only a few furlongs from the Anappara site. If water could be had for all these people, is it a difficult thing to get water for four or five hundred students also? It is surprising to see that, in spite of the many attacks in the Council, the Government has not yet decided the question. I raise my emphatic protest against this, and I tell you once for all that, if the College question comes to the Council, I will record my vote against the Government.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I rise in support of the motion to bring to the notice of the House the vacillating policy of the Government for the last two years with regard to the Anappara scheme and the location of the First Grade College. The University Commission has recommended the Anappara site as suitable for the purpose, and it is strange that the question is still pending. It is a pity that thousands of rupees are being spent by the Government on improvements on the existing buildings as a temporary measure. I do not deny the fact that, if the Harbour Works are completed, we may get 11 or 12 lakhs of rupees out of these. Do the Government contemplate to put up a building at Anappara only, after the Harbour comes into existence, ? Perhaps, the Government think of disposing the present buildings to a firm or some other people when the Harbour comes and to put up a building at Anappara only after that. That should not be the policy of the Government.

Now, a plea is brought forward by the Government that there is no water supply in the Anappara locality. This question can be easily solved. We have got down a well-boring plant, and I understand that wells are being dug at Nemmara for the supply of water to the people there. Why not the Government try this experiment at Anappara also? Thus it can be seen that the plea of scarcity of water will not hold good.

Another difficulty is with regard to electric power. There is already an electric installation here that supplies power to the College, the General Hospital and the Krishna Vilas Palace. It is not a Herculian task to take this plant to Anappara for lighting arrangements.

Another point which I wish to urge is about the difference in pay of certain sections in the College. We cannot bring in a comparison between a Government college and a private college. The appointments made in it should be in keeping with the status

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of the institution. If a Professor of Chemistry and a Professor of Physics can draw Rs. 300 and 500 each respectively, why cannot the Government pay the Professors of English also the same amount? I do not understand the step-motherly treatment meted out to one section. All I can say is that these English Professors are more efficient and more effective in their teaching than some of the old gentlemen we have in the College. They could have been at least given the maximum. It is a glaring disparity, and it is injustice to do like this.

Now, a word about the School Final Board. The Board consists of officials and non-officials. There is not a single Headmaster on the Board. The Director of Public Instruction, the Senior Inspector of Schools and the Principals of the Boy's Colleges are at present the only members of the Board. The membership in the Board should not be treated as a monopoly. It is advisable to have a female member also in the Board on behalf of the Women's College. Even the Syndicate of the Madras University has a female member. Is it not an injustice and want of imiagination on the part of the Hon'ble Member for Education to have kept pending the question of appointing a lady member on the School Final Board?

I am sorry that the Lady Member did not put in a word in this connection.

If a list of the examiners for the last 10 years were called for, we would find the same persons appearing as examiners year after year. Neither the Secretary to the School Final Board nor any other member seems to have looked into this. What I say is we want equal distribution, which is a duty as well as a privilege.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I rise to support this motion, more for the sake of policy than for the details of it. It has been repeatedly pointed out by me in this House that the Anappara buildings are absolutely unsuitable for college purposes. They have been constructed for a Leper Asylum, and the transfer of a college to a Leper Asylum will carry a stigma for years to come.

President.—Are you supporting or opposing this motion?

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Supporting, only for policy's sake.

President.—What I want to know is whether you want the College to remain at Ernakulam or not.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The Government must make up its mind first; then only they can arrive at a conclusion.

President.—The Government wants time to deliberate.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I will give plenty of time. (*Laughter.*) And we will help the Government by our united opinion as to how you should decide. That is why I tell you that you should have the consensus of opinion in this matter. Have you decided to abandon the Anappara buildings, an ideal leper asylum, for the College purposes?

President.—Was not this question once raised and discussed?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—But you have not yet decided, except upon one fact, and that is that the Leper Asylum is not going to be located at Anappara. You have told me as an answer to my many questions that "there is no use of elaborating on this question; we have made up our minds. We have got another view." Exactly so. But what was your view? I was present at the informal committee meeting held at Trichur, when the question of starting a First Grade College was raised. It was in 1099 during the floods. It was to settle upon this question, whether we should have a First Grade College in Cochin or not. It was for the purpose of shifting the Leper Asylum from Anappara that this move was made. I went there and visited the Asylum, and found that it was on the outskirts of a forest. You have to spend lakhs and lakhs of rupees to transfer a First Grade College to Anappara. The idea was also mooted that the other Colleges in Trichur and Alwaye may also be shifted to Anappara—the St. Thomas' to locate their College also at Anappara. These were the questions that were agitating our minds. Three years have now elapsed, and yet you have not made up your minds as to where the College should be located. This delay, this inordinate dilatoriness on the part of the Government is what we complain of. Spend no more of the tax-payers' money in Ernakulam, if you have decided to go to Anappara.

Mr. C. Matthai.—It is only a dwelling house.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Then, we shall vote for money to make it a College building. It is this oscillation in your mind as to where the College should be located that we are at to-day.

As far as the pay and prospects of the Professors are concerned, I am for giving them ample pay. The Education Department is the one department in which money must be liberally and lavishly spent. Because they are the people to whom our young people are entrusted for cultural purposes. I, therefore, do not grudge fat salaries paid to Professors. I do not complain of that, but only of the oscillation policy of the Government as to where the College should be located.

President.—Was that question raised in Mr. Chakyamuri's motion? Is not yours a token motion, Mr. Salem?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No, Sir. It is a substantial motion.

President.—The motion is only regarding Tutors and Demonstrators and all that.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We are going to concentrate upon this particular motion; that is a cut in the whole department.

President.—I want to know whether we have to discuss any other motion on Education. Is this our last motion?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I want to view the subject from these aspects; different Members will speak of different aspects, as this is the only motion in "Education" on which we are going to speak.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, I also will confine myself more or less to this aspect of waste in Collegiate Education. I have no quarrel with giving fat salaries to competent gentlemen. But it is not only in one department that fat salaries should be given but in every department where the officers have heavy work. You compare the work of Magistrates or Munsiffs with that of the Professors of the College working 7 hours per week. What is the comparison? You pay the Magistrates 125 and 150 rupees according to their grade and the Munsiffs 150 to 300 and they work from 11 to 5 in the day and for long in the night. Compared with the College department, several officers of the other departments are quite under paid. Sir, we have been supplied with certain figures in regard to the work that is turned out in the College. I find a practical difficulty in adjusting these figures to actualities. Many of them apparently are not correct. There are four classes in History. Let us take a student each from the Junior Intermediate, the Senior Intermediate, the Junior B. A. and the Senior B. A. classes. Each student has at his disposal 5 hours a day and 5 days per week working for all the 5 hours and on all the five days of the week. Each student has 25 hours a week. So that four students of the four classes have 100 hours. But here the Professors engaged in English and History together have 118 hours of work. I fail to see how it is possible. Between these four students there is an excess of 18 hours. Let us take English and Physics, 73 hours and 59 hours respectively making a total of 132 hours. I would like to have this cleared.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Does the Hon'ble Member mean to say that the figures have been fudged?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—The English Professors are working 78 hours per week and the History Professors 45 hours. They

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

must teach the students of these four classes. There are no other classes.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—There are divisions.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—There are no divisions in History, I suppose. They have got only 100 hours at their disposal every week, 25 hours for a student. Taking four classes, it comes to 100 hours. Is the Hon'ble Member for Education in a position to work out the figures correctly?

Mr. C. Matthai.—It is not so easy as the Hon'ble Member thinks.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I would like to get some explanation.

President.—I am sorry I do not understand all these technicalities.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Some of the classes are generally let out. Then it must be reduced.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, did the Member speak about Composition?

President.—He spoke about English and History.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Well, English Composition is also taken. It is taken in batches. Some hours are devoted to it in all classes. There are some members of the staff who are simultaneously engaged in each class.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Is it taken in batches in the Intermediate Classes, both Junior and Senior? How may hours per week are these batches engaged? I am sure there cannot be many.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Two hours for the Junior Class.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Then it comes to 104. It won't come to 118. I shall go on with the motion, Sir. I shall satisfy myself with the figures afterwards.

Mr. C. Matthai.—The figures will be before the House.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, I have several other matters to refer to. So I shall pass on.

There is complaint in regard to the management of hostels. I shall not dilate upon these things. I understand there are quarrels going on among students in regard to meals and other things. It should be stopped and the wardens asked to supervise the hostels more efficiently. These students are the future citizens of Cochin.

I have to say a word about the abolition of the Hostel for Ladies. Instead of being curative, it is suicidal. There are over 60 ladies in the College. Where are they living? A few are in the Convent. The Convent people refused to take the students, and I believe very few have gone there. So they have to accommodate themselves in private houses.

President.—Requisitions were got only from very few. Six students or so only required admission into the Hostel.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, Sir. Only six.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Perhaps the others knew that the Hostel had been closed.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Because they had accommodation elsewhere.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—This is a shifting policy on the part of the Government.

President.—I think you were concentrating upon this motion.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Several issues have been raised. What would you desire me to speak on ?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—We want to know the policy of the Government.

President.—All the questions have been raised in connection with that matter.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What we say is no more money should be spent before finally deciding the location of the College.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Is it the location of the College that the Hon'ble Member refers to ? Well, I think I made that point pretty clear yesterday. Did I not ? I said we are guided by the Report of the University Commission. They have not made the recommendations in decisive terms. They have inspected the site and pronounced themselves in favour of it. But they say in their Report that, before we arrive at any decision, we have to make sure about an ample supply of water. It is an essential condition. We have been conducting preliminary investigations towards deciding that point. As I told you, the Chief Engineer is conducting investigations.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What I do not understand is why we should combine an irrigation question with that of water supply to a College.

Mr. C. Matthai.—To my mind there is no harm in our combining an irrigation question with that of water supply to an educational institution. If we can thus economise expenditure, that would of course be good. So much money of the tax-payer could be saved. We have now started a First Grade College and brought it into being. If once we decide that Anappara would suit our requirements, then, we can make up our minds and start construction. But we have not reached that position yet; very soon we may. After we decide, we have to raise funds. There are two things—not merely the decision with regard to the site but also as to the raising of funds for putting up new buildings. As the President himself observed, it might come to about 20 lakhs, whereas I would make a very modest estimate of 10 lakhs. Even if we accept this lower estimate of 10 lakhs, is this

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

House in a position to place it in the hands of the Government next year?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I will show how it is done in every country.

Mr. C. Matthai.—I do not think the matter is so very easy of solution.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The Hon'ble Member for Education may confine himself to one point—whether he accepts the proposition that, till the Government decide as to whether the College should be located at Anappara or not, they should not spend any more money on the present College building at Ernakulam.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Well, Sir, that is an impossible position for the Government to accept. The College was started last year, and it requires accommodation, and this House asks the Government to wait and to manage with the accommodation of a High School, until the question regarding the location of the College is decided once for all. It is, I repeat, an impossible position for the Government. Another Hon'ble Member suggested that a building might be rented for College purposes.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May we ask the Government to fix a time limit? What means this vacillation on the part of the Government?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I express my inability to do so.

President.—Don't ask us to fix a time limit. If we say six months, and within that time we do not decide the question, after the lapse of six months, you come and ask: "Well, what has the Government done?"

Mr. C. Matthai.—With regard to the application of the epithet "vacillation" to the policy of the Government, I have to say a few words. You deliberate over a question and take time to decide. To a person of a hasty temperament it may appear as vacillation, but to another of a different temperament it may present itself in a different light, and he may approve of that attitude and take it only as deliberation; so that we should take all these factors into consideration before we begin to frame epithets to apply to the attitude assumed by the Government. The position of the Government is quite clear. The Government have been making efforts to investigate the matter. They may be in a position to decide the question with regard to the location of the College very soon. The Government have not shirked their responsibility; in fact they are bound to act up to their undertaking with the University. Even when the question is decided, we shall not be in a position to put up buildings at once. You must allow a reasonable period, say, another five years. You

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

have also to allot a certain amount. Till that time the College has to remain at Ernakulam, and it has to be accommodated there. Then the question is, what is the most economic course, what is the most reasonable amount to be spent on the present College building during these four or five years? We did our best in the way of thinking. Spending another 30 thousand rupees on it for putting up a new building will not be a real waste of money. Buildings are wanted in Ernakulam for ever so many purposes. For instance, the Members of this House were complaining that there was no proper building available for their stay at Ernakulam. When I hear this criticism, I am reminded of a very suitable building very near here which is occupied by the Comptroller of Accounts. If we find that the new building now put up proves unnecessary after three or four years, we can shift the Comptroller's Office there, and then there would be the present Comptroller's building available for the use of the Members of this House. So the question of waste of money in putting up a building for 30 thousand rupees at Ernakulam need not at all arise. The Government thought, after mature consideration, that the best course would be to accommodate the College at Ernakulam for a little more time, until this very important question of water supply at Anappara was decided, and until Government found itself in a position to undertake the construction of buildings. That, I think, is a clear position assumed by the Government.

And then, about the over-staffing of the College. I think we discussed the question here yesterday. I had placed before the House the statement regarding the hours of work that Professors in other similar institutions have to do. I do not think one who peruses these figures would be inclined to think that the Professors of our College are having an easy time. As regards the pay of one particular section of the College, and comparing it with another section, we must look upon the State service as one. We have got several kinds of officers, Headmasters, Inspecting Officers, College Professors, etc. All these together form one service, and as regards the emoluments of an individual officer, that depends upon his service, the quality of work and so on. We have young men and old men in our College. In fairness we ought to allow an older man a higher pay and higher rank, so that, if you take the College, when a senior man happens to be a History Professor getting a higher pay, he, by virtue of his work and long service, is and ought to be entitled to that position and pay!

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—We would ask you to compare the Government College with the St. Thomas' College. In the History section of that College no such high pay isgiven.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. Matthai.—I am afraid the Hon'ble Member does not look upon things from the real cultural point of view. We are not going to buy an article at the lowest price. That is not the principle on which Professors in First Grade Colleges are appointed. Cheapness is not the criterion. We are not going in for the cheapest articles.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—If you are going so radically, I think there is no necessity to consult us.

Mr. C. Matthai.—It is an accepted policy, that in appointing Professors to a College, you look to the very best equipment—equipment obtained by going into centres of learning and getting the very best and up-to-date training that is available. Or it might be the other way. One who has not had the advantage of such training might have all the advantages of long experience of work, which ought to count for promotions to a higher pay, and we find that we have a combination of all these here. One of our senior men may have put in long experience. We find that his services have to be recognised. So we give him higher pay. We have also many of our young men who have a claim upon the State. The Hon'ble Members of this House are for patronising local talent, and I can say, so far as the Education Department is concerned, that during the last so many years we have made it our firm principle—we have not swerved from it—whenever we find Cochin candidates available who would suit the requirements of our service, we do not go in for foreign importation. Regarding the different sections of our College, we have been acting strictly in accordance with this principle. We had a certain number of young men who had gone to Europe and have now returned with good records. When we started a First Grade College, the most natural thing for us to do was to look out for them, take them into our College, and thus encourage them. Of course, certain colleges, whose resources are not so ample as those of the Government, work on different lines. They pursue a different line of policy. We do not blame them for that, and let them not blame the Government for adopting a policy different from theirs.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—A point of information. May I know whether it is not a fact that the Government Proceedings laying down the scheme for shifting the Leper Asylum makes mention of the fact that plenty of water is available there? I do not exactly remember the date of the Proceedings.

President.—What is your recollection?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—That the Government stated that there is plenty of water there.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—I am afraid we are making too much of the question of water supply.

Mr C. Matthai.—We cannot calculate all these things mathematically. A College opened there would be a growing institution, and, therefore, in the first place, we are to make sure that an ample supply of water is available. We know that a much greater quantity of water is required for a First Grade College than for a Leper Asylum. For a College we want an ample supply of water for cooking purposes, bathing, swimming, and all that. Therefore, it is not enough to say "you can sink one or two wells and get the required quantity of water in that way."

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Was not this question of water supply considered at the time of the proposal to shift the Leper Asylum?

President.—I am not in a position to say that.

Mr. C. Matthai.—The quantity required for a residential institution like a College would be much more than that required for a Leper Asylum.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—Sir, I propose that the question be put.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Sir, I second it.

The closure motion was put and carried. The President then put the original motion of Mr. Chakyamuri for the vote of the House.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—A poll, Sir.

President.—14 for and 13 against; motion carried.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Mr. Kochunni Menon did not vote; he remained neutral.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—I am not neutral. (*Laughter.*)

President.—Then, what is the correct figure?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—One official Member is absent.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Yes. So, 11 plus 3 equals 14. The other is also 14.

President.—Please read the names.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Messrs. Chummar, Ambooken, George Chakyamuri, Ittiravi Nambudiri, Ikkanda Wariar, Srimati Madhavi Amma, Messrs. Mathew, Nunes, Dr. A. R. Menon, Messrs. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar, Kunjunni Raja, Ouseph, Sankaran Nambudiri and Salem.

The other is also 11.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Messrs. Wariar and Nambudiri did not raise their hands at first, I am afraid.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Yes. They raised their hands.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—It was not seen this side.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Many neutral.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Neutrals also have to be polled.

President.—6 neutrals—Mr. Eachara Menon, Mr. Chakko, Dr. A. G Menon, Mr. Koder, and Mr. A. K. Thomas, Mr. Walmsely, you vote for or against?

Mr. Walmsely.—I remain neutral.

President.—So, Mr. Koder, what is the rule when there is equality of votes?

Mr. S. S. Koder.—I think you have got a casting vote.

President.—I will vote *against* the motion.

Now, I think we have reached the time limit, so far as this Demand is concerned, so that all the other motions must lapse. Therefore, I will put Demand XVIII to the vote of the House.

The grant was made.

[The maximum time allotted for the discussion of Demand XVIII having expired, the following motions were considered to have lapsed for want of time.

Motions Nos. 123 to 139.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,08,347 for "Collegiate Education" by Rs. 8,347.*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 720 for "Warden's allowance" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,62,000 —for "Grants-in-aid" (Total) by one rupee.*

Mr. K. P. Karuppan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 88,261 for "Secondary Education—for Girls" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. P. Karuppan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,000 for "special allotment for Pulaya Education" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,000 for "special allotment for Pulaya Education" by one rupee.*

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,000 for "special allotment for Pulaya Education" by one rupee.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 200 for "Spinning classes" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. P. Karuppan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 600 for "special allotment for Pulaya Education" by one rupee.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,137 for "Special stipends and scholarships" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 12,68,800 under "Education" by one rupee.*

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 12,68,000 under "Education" by Rs. 30,000.*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 12,68,800 under "Education" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,68,800 for "Education by Rs. 50,000.*

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,57,665 under "Education by Rs. 2,074.*

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 12,68,800 under "Education" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 12,68,800 under "Education" by Rs. 100.*

Demand XXI—Medical—Rs. 1·94 lakhs.

President.—The next Demand for consideration is XXI 'Medical'.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 1,93,500 under—Demand No. XXI "Medical". I shall not take up much time of the House at this stage with any elaborate explanation of the figures of the budget presented before the House, because almost all the items and figures are the same as those passed by this House last year, and in some much less, except under the head 'dietary charges', 'purchase of furniture' and 'miscellaneous charges'. The increased allotment is due to the increased number of in-patients treated in all the hospitals of the State. The number of in-patients in 1100 was 9,800 as against 8,807 of the previous year. During the last 10 months of the current year, we have already treated 9,713 in-patients. A large number of in-patients are seeking relief with the increasing appreciation by the public of the treatment afforded in the various hospitals of the State. Let me assure this House that this increased number of in-patients does not represent the existing demand for admission of in-patients. It is a well-known fact that very often patients had to be sent out, while they were yet in a convalescent stage.

Sir, an increase of 1,000 in-patients is sufficiently convincing ground for asking for an enhanced allotment under 'diet'.

Under "furniture," as explained by the Finance Member in his explanatory notes, there is only an increase of Rs. 500, which is for the purpose of equipping the X-ray department with some necessary furniture.

Under 'miscellaneous charges' there is an increase. I have to represent to the House that there is a monthly fixed recurring charge of very nearly Rs. 600 under 'miscellaneous charges'. Washing charges, soup bandage cloth and lighting charges take up the bulk of the amount asked for. There is only a surplus of a few hundred rupees for the sake of unforeseen expenses like repair of water-pipe connections, gas pipes, etc.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—We will discuss the several motions tabled.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—On a point of information. 'Pupil Nurses and Midwives (Page 63, No. 10). Rs. 10 and Rs. 5. Is it the pay?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Stipends for pupil midwives, Rs. 10, and pupil nurses Rs. 15.

President.—Are they undergoing training?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes, and we pay them a stipend.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—How much is it?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—For the pupil nurses Rs. 15 for the last year and Rs. 20 for the second.

President.—Ten is shown in brackets. That shows the amount.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—For pupil midwives. I was speaking before about the nurses' stipend.

President.—The figure under brackets shows the amount. So, that shows Rs. 20 for pupil nurses and Rs. 10 for pupil midwives.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. There are 10 pupil midwives. Every year we take them for one year's training. After that they are sent out. Five of them are trained in the Maternity Hospital, Trichur, and 5 in the Women's Hospital, Mattancheri. Pupil nurses, there are 5 under training in the General Hospital.

President.—How many months are they trained?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Two years. Now, this is the second year. The first year, they are paid Rs. 15.

Motions Nos. 140 to 142.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 30,100 for "Establishment" by one rupee.*

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 68,000 for "Cost of medicines, instruments, etc." by one rupee.*

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for "purchase and repair of furniture."*

President.—Now, Mr. Salem's cut motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I have raised this token motion for the purpose of calling your attention to certain facts regarding the working of the Medical Department. I claim an intimate acquaintance with the department, and I am a frequent visitor to the Hospital. The number of nurses provided for in the budget, as you will see, Sir, from Page 63 is only 13, and they have to look after about 200 patients. This, Sir, is a very inadequate provision for the proper looking after of the sick.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—How many nurses? Thirty?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There are 13 nurses; there are 5 or 6 sisters.

President.—They are extra.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes. I have also visited the Trichur Civil Hospital, and I found there are practically no nurses there.

President.—No nurses?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There were a few sisters at the time I visited. I do not know if there are any. The Chief Medical Officer may correct me, if I am wrong.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There are two nurses.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Perhaps I did not see them because they are so few.

President.—In the Trichur Hospital are there only two nurses?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes, Sir.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—And that is also a very popular and growing institution. There, I found beds scattered on the verandah for want of accommodation inside the walls. There were more patients than the Hospital can accommodate, flocking into the Hospital. Such being the case, this provision of 13 nurses in the budget is a very inadequate one.

President.—You see, here also the beds are scattered in the verandah.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Here also they have to drive away in-patients. This, Sir, is one defect.

The next defect that I want to point out is the absence of any post operation wards. This necessitates patients, after they are chloroformed and operated on, to be carried in the sun and in the rain to the wards. This is a very grave defect. In Madras they have got convenient and closed rooms in which they place the patients after operation for some time, sometimes even for 2 or 3 days. Then alone they are removed to other wards.

President.—That is with reference to the new operation theatre.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Both the operation theatres. There is no covered passage even.

President.—For the old theatre there is a covered passage.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Not for the new.

President.—I think that is under contemplation.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. There is no provision. There is a proposal for having a block built connect-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ing the two main buildings and the operation theatre. When funds are available, I suppose it will be done.

President.—Not provided for next year?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—These things cannot wait, Sir. These things are essential. When we have a surplus budget, we expect you to provide liberally for these essential things.

Then, Sir, there is the absence of paying wards in the Hospital. This puts respectable people who get sick and have to undergo operations to very great difficulties. I do not wish to dwell more upon these things than say that it is an absolute necessity. I have only to point out, and I am sure the Government will respond to it.

Then again, the Trichur Hospital is pining for funds. Ample funds have not been provided for all the necessaries of an up-to-date hospital there. I have visited the Hospital more than 3 or 4 times, and I have put down remarks in the Visitors' Book also. I hope the Government have perused the remarks of Hon'ble Members who have visited. I understand the Hon'ble Member for Ernakulam also has visited it. I saw his remarks there.

Then, Sir, provision should be made for training a number of nurses or white wings as they are called, in the General Hospital here, to man the other hospitals after they undergo training. I understand that there are very kind-hearted missionary gentlemen, Bishops, who are inclined to send from their recruits nuns to help in the nursing of the sick. Such people should be given ample training and ample allowance, (*Hear, hear*) in the General Hospital, and then, they may be sent to the other hospitals to look after the sick.

Then, Sir, there is no suitable arrangement made for ophthalmic examination in the Trichur Hospital. Dr. Rao is an ophthalmic expert, and his service in that district is being requisitioned very widely; but, in the Hospital, there is no provision for any regular ophthalmic examination.

Then, I come to the next point, the dietary charges. It has been remarked here that the dieting charge is only 1 anna 11 pies for a sick person. I ask the Government, when they are so philanthropic, to provide such up-to-date hospitals, whether this dieting charge is enough. Last year, thousands of patients have been put to the greatest difficulty, on account of no provision or inadequate provision for dieting. Both in the Mattancheri Hospital and in the General Hospital complaints came from the patients, and several of them requested me to send questions. But I waited for this opportunity to bring the matter to your notice. There were many patients who came from

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

neighbouring parts who were asked to diet themselves. In their anxiety, in their sick and unaided circumstances, I think they were heartless in telling them "go and diet yourselves outside". That has put them to great difficulty—to find milk for the patients, to find suitable food for the patients and all sorts of difficulties. This is a very great difficulty for the public. Sir, I hope it will receive your kind attention.

Then, Sir, what about the resolution of Mr. Koder for an hospital for Mattancheri?

Mr. S. S. Koder.—The Government will be good enough to bring it into being without my notice.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The next defect that I want to point out is this. In Mattancheri you have got a nice Women's Hospital. What are the men to do?

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Die (*Laughter*).

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There is a very small dispensary. There could be no very great difficulty to provide 3 or 4 beds in that dispensary. Of course, serious cases may be transported this side, to Ernakulam. A small emergency ward may be put up there, so that emergent cases at night may be well accommodated in the dispensary; and serious cases may be transported at Government expense to the General Hospital.

Then, Sir, one other point. We find that everywhere Doctors of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon class getting higher pay and higher prospects in the neighbouring States. In British India they can rise up to 200 rupees. But here they cannot do so. I leave it to you, Sir, and to the generosity of the Government to provide adequately for these people, for one reason, that may prevent them from asking money from the patients. For, it so happens that, because they are inadequately paid, the patients are put to trouble. That is the difficulty in the working of the system, and if they are adequately paid, any such cases of exactions can be treated properly. These are the defects in the department and its working, and I wish to bring this to your notice in this connection, i. e., under this token motion.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I have only one word. That is about women's service in the Medical Department.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I have my first motion. He has made a general submission.

President.—Yes, then, Dr. A. R. Menon.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, I wish it to be clearly understood that the remarks that I am going to make here to day are not intended to affect the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. All these remarks and all these criticisms are directed against the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Government in its working of the Medical Department. That must be clearly understood, for it will be seen in the course of my remarks that the Chief Medical Officer and myself will be of the same opinion in my objections to the Government, though he has not the liberty to express it as I have.

Let me take first the dietary charges. The dietary charges come to about Rs. 30,000 for a floating population of between 400 and 500 for one year. Work it out in any way you like, it will come to less than 2 annas. In one hospital the name of which I do not mention, Rs. 200 were given for the maintenance of 12 beds for one year. A simple piece of arithmetical calculation will tell you how much each person would get, if we have to maintain 12 persons for 365 days with 200 rupees.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—There are 20 admissions.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That makes matters worse.

Then, you will find, after calculation, look at it in whatever way, you like, that it is absolutely insufficient. Not only that. A portion of it will be taken, of course, by the contractor, which nobody can prevent, no matter how efficient the supervision of the doctors may be. Not only that, Sir. The other day it was brought to your notice that an hospital was constructed with 65 beds to accommodate 82 or 87 people. It follows that the food intended for 65 people has been distributed to 87 people, unless you admit, which you have no right to admit here to-day, that you have taken private patients in the hospital. I have brought to the notice of the Government before, for the last 8 years, that you will never be able to manage your hospital, that you will never be able to obtain sufficient funds to maintain your hospital. Do you know, Sir, that in no country in the world except India there has ever been a case of a medical man paid one rupee in his whole life for the service he renders to the public? Sir, the Diwan of this State must approach this question not in the spirit of President but as the Director of the Executive, as the Diwan for the whole of this State who is to look after the interests of the whole population and not of a handful of men. It is a good thing to be very loyal to the subordinates, but loyalty to the subordinates must not be subordinate to loyalty to the people of this country. I do not say a word against the provision in the budget, for I am satisfied that this Government or any other Government will never be able to pay them adequately, if they are going to pay. The principle is that, so long as you pay your medical men as you do now, your medical men will not, as a rule, be very competent, for the simple reason that competency depends upon competition, and

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

efficiency depends upon competition. Sir, do you realise what has taken place? You will kindly forget for the time being that I am a medical man myself. But do you realise what will be the state, if you appoint 20 Government Sirkar Vakils—20 Advocates—in Ernakulam, and every one who resorts to them for cases is allowed to present his plaint free, will not be charged for court-fee, will not be charged for boarding, will not be charged for lodging, will not be charged for anything else? What will be the state of the other Vakils in the same locality? To whom shall we seek but to the Diwan who will see these things in the proper perspective? I say, Sir, independent medical professional men are killed outright. Do you realise, Sir, without making a miscalculation, that 75 per cent of the people outside the hospital are to-day attended by the private practitioners and not by your Government officials? This question must be approached with sympathy and not with a spirit of animosity; because, after all is said and done, the private practitioners have a right to claim the same sympathy at the hands of the Government as the officials themselves. I have been asked to represent these facts to your notice by my friends, and I hope the Government will do me the justice that they deem proper. It is not, after all, an absolutely selfish instinct that has contributed to the bringing of this to your notice to-day.

Sir, I want to ask another question. Why is it that a man who is born here, brought up here, who has paid taxes for generations and generations, should not be allowed to enter your hospital, and why is it that you are willing to take him, if he condescends to accept your pay? I refused to accept this pay, and you refused to permit me to enter into the hospital. The only explanation you can say is that in your opinion such and such a person is an incompetent man. Such an opinion has not been expressed. The Government took a view. There is an end of the matter. You will find, Sir, in the file, these questions; and as a matter of fact, invitation came to me from your predecessor, through a gentleman who occupies a position, not less than the position of honour and dignity that you occupy to-day.

What happened? They say that they will be disappointed, if such a privilege is conceded to such men "Our men will lose their private practice". They will not say it here. The Chief Medical Officer will not say that. If so, then and there, the whole case is gone. "If such a privilege is extended to these people, they will get the major portion of our practice". That is what they say.

Now, Sir, I ask a question. Are you going to convert your hospital into a kind of nursing room for the poor, for the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

rich and not to keep your hospital as a charity—the only charity that is worth doing and the only charity that this State is always expected to do? I want to know the answer to that question. In all these hospitals—I do not make any difference—as I said, medicines are given to private patients. The other day, the Chief Medical Officer said that, in all the hospitals—he will correct me, if I am wrong—about more than half of them—they are in the habit of giving medicine to private patients, and it has been a *mamool* for years and years. I do not blame them. This system is rotten to the core. So long as you do not adopt the system that is obtainable everywhere, your hospital will not get necessary funds. You will not be able to carry out your work satisfactorily, as you are expected to do, and as the public has a right to expect from the Government.

Sir, there is another point that I wish to bring to your notice in this connection. When competition begins with private practitioner, and the private practitioner is an element to be counted, what happens? Immediately, advantages are held out to the private patients, asking them: "Come, our hospital is free, you are at liberty to come, to occupy our beds, and to have medicine free, food free!" It does not matter: So long as there is competition, they are entitled. What is the net result? Sometimes, poor patients have to obtain letters of authorisation for getting proper treatment. Otherwise, the servants are put on the ground, while well-to-do men are put on the bed. Once or twice, medicine was purchased from my own shop.

Sir, you must face this proposition as the Diwan. It is essential that you should look to both sides of the question; for it is the complaint of people like me who do not wish to trouble the Diwan or do not approach you often. It is a fact that association, for a time intimate association, naturally prejudices men. In matters like this, I submit to you once more, there must be an open mind to understand all these questions. And in your opinion, if you are satisfied and convinced that we are right, I submit it is your duty to sacrifice the interests of a few of the State, for the sake of the whole. As I have already pointed out, I do not wish to detail this matter except to call your attention to one fact more. Sir, in Madras, these places have been advertised as honorary service and honorary positions. There is one gentleman, now, occupying the position of Honorary Physician in the General Hospital. Another gentleman, who was Sub-Assistant Surgeon in Kolinjampara, and who is now Professor in the Medical College in Germany, was kicked out of the State! They only asked for honorary posts,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

I ask why is it that the Government is totally against private practitioners?

Well, every country is encouraging private practitioners so that the Government may be relieved of this grave responsibility. What are you doing? You are killing the profession! Every action of yours, I do not say particularly, or say that it is intentionally yours—every action tantamounts to doing away with these private practitioners. In such an atmosphere, I say bluntly and frankly, I shall not have any sympathy for increasing their pay. My contention is about pay, because of this trouble. Look at this figure. The pay of the one comes to Rs. 22,044 and of the other to Rs. 47,385. Naturally you know, Sir, the advantage of a hospital is increase of prestige, and increase of prestige means increase of practice. In an institution like this, in all countries, the lower men are paid, and the higher men are not paid. What do you notice here? All the higher men are paid enormously, and the lower men are not paid.

While I entirely agree that to the lower subordinates all sympathy must be shown, I say definitely that the policy the Government is pursuing is injurious to our people. I submit that the Government ought to consider this question in its true perspective.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—I shall make a few observations from a layman's point of view—interested as we are in the cure of disease—I want to bring to the notice of this House that there are no paying wards in any of the hospitals here. In Madras and other places there are what are called Officers' quarters, where respectable people are treated as in-patients in hospitals, and they provide accommodation for treatment independently and separately from other patients. That is a very desirable thing. I had the occasion to visit the General Hospital last year, and I found many respectable people, ladies and gentlemen, complaining about this matter. As it is, two screens by the side of the bed in the general hall are supposed to give the necessary seclusion and privacy. We may at least make a modest beginning by having six separate curtainlaid huts in the General Hospital, four in Trichur and two in the other Hospitals, and the patients may be asked to pay for their special concession. Another drawback that I noticed in the case of the Hospitals at Ernakulam, Trichur (Civil and Maternity Hospitals) and Cochin, is that there is a lack of trained nurses. In the Ernakulam General Hospital there are only 5 nursing sisters and 5 trained nurses, and the accommodation is for 160 beds. I understand on enquiry that a nurse could not properly look after more than 20 patients, while on duty. Even on this basis of calculation there is immediate necessity for the appointment of six

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

more nurses in the General Hospital. These observations relate to the other hospitals in the State also. Another point on which I wish to focus the attention of this House is that the idea of the Central Ayurvedic Hospital has not yet taken shape. In *the Administration Report of Travancore for 1100*, at page 71, we find the Government have been spending large sums of money in this respect. In Travancore, there is a College for Ayurveda in which students are taught, and examined and qualified men are sent out to practice. Now, we find in the College of Ayurveda there were 130 students for the year 1100. In Travancore the Government have been helping Vaidyasalas and Ayurvedic Schools very liberally, so much so that in this department alone the Government spent about Rs. 45,431 this year as against Rs. 46,583 in 1099. This department deserves to be encouraged, and in view of the assurance given by the Government on the last occasion, I think early steps would be taken in this behalf. It may not be possible to have many fully equipped hospitals now, but, I would insist upon the establishment of at least one fully equipped hospital in the State, that is the General Hospital, wherever that is located.

In Travancore they have a Chemical Examiner's Department in which are employed Bacteriological and Mythological experts. We have none here. (Vide page 70 of *the Travancore Administration Report.*)

There are no specialists here for 'ear' and 'nose'. Then, another point of importance is that the Government should be pleased to insist that compounders in chemical shops should qualify themselves as early as possible. We have had sad instances of patients dying by taking in mixtures wrongly prepared.

President.—Do not they get certificates now?

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Some possess and some do not. It is not compulsory.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It must be made compulsory. It is a very serious thing.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—I would also urge upon the Government to consider the question that unqualified men should not be allowed to practice. Necessary rules may be framed. Another point on which I wish to lay emphasis is that the medical inspection in schools must be carried on in a more satisfactory manner and first-aid lectures and classes made compulsory in all schools and a full-time officer deputed for the same. As in other places more prominent attention should be paid in the matter of child welfare. To relieve the Medical Department of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

its work, I would suggest that 'Rural sanitation' may be handed over to the Panchayats. The receipts from hospitals might be increased. It is only reasonable that people who are in a position to pay should be charged for the treatment that they receive from the hospital. For surgical operations, a minimum charge may be levied, as is done in other places. Hospitals are mainly intended for the poor and not for the rich. The poor alone deserve to be treated free.

President. —That may be. Suppose a man says that he is not well-to do, how are we to know whether he is well-to do or not ?

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—This method is successfully carried on in many hospitals in British India and even in Travancore. In Travancore, the patient's name, address, occupation, etc., are entered in the register. Wherever there is suspicion, a Tahsildar or the Village Officer easily finds out and reports whether the patient is in a position to pay or not. Even in regard to out-patients, there is no reason why the well-to-do should not be charged. Some income is easily realised in this way. Most of our Hospital buildings have to be improved. The Trichur Civil Hospital was found to be absolutely in disrepair. The kitchen is a dingy, miserable, filthy place, not fit for preparing anything for human consumption. The walls of the main building were found cracked. It stood in need of plastering and the windows and doors have to be cleaned and painted afresh. In regard to the Maternity Hospital the need for supply of good water by pipes in the second floor appealed to me very much.

President.—We have made provision for that next year.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Thank you, Sir. One more point, and I have done. It would be desirable to lay down rules regulating the admission of female patients into the Civil Hospital, and the Maternity Hospital, Trichur. Inasmuch as there are ample facilities for admitting gynecological cases and surgical cases too in the latter, considerations of sentiment and decency would naturally tempt one to suggest that such cases should, as far as possible, be admitted into the Maternity Hospital, run by lady doctors, rather than in the Civil Hospital.

The work of the department is fairly satisfactory, and I would not stint expenditure in this behalf. Various improvements have yet to be made in our hospitals, and the care of the deceased and the ailing poor is one of our primary duties and responsibilities.

With these words I strongly support the motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I beg to withdraw my motion, Sir.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I would call the attention of the Government to the fact that the full benefit of the Medical Department, as it now exists, is shared by the towns and the important centres in Cochin. The Mofussil people, especially people living in outlying parts, are not benefited very much.

President.—They benefit by the General Hospital.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—They do not benefit much by the Allopathic Hospitals in the State. We should conduct in an efficient way Ayurvedic Hospitals, and also Homeopathic institutions. What I want to bring to the notice of the House is more attention should be given to the Ayurvedic Hospitals in the Mofussil parts of the State. A few more Ayurvedic Hospitals should be opened in villages which are out of reach of the Allopathic Hospitals. Either the Government should open them or encourage private enterprises. That would not cost so much as Allopathic Hospitals. Now, there is a saying in Malayalam that 'പാത്തിക്കീലിക്ക് പടിക്കുടണം' which means that the Allopathic system is more expensive. That is a terror to the poor people; because they cannot afford to pay the Allopathic doctors. Suppose the doctor lives some five miles away. First of all, it is difficult to get the service of a doctor to come to such a long distance. He must be paid a very decent sum. These poor people have to pay this big amount which they cannot afford. They find it very difficult. The Ayurvedic doctors would charge only a very small amount, and the patients' needs would be looked after by him.

The second point is the medical inspection of schools. We have got a lakh and odd students, on the whole, in the State. Now, only a very small fraction is given the benefit of inspection. Only High School students are inspected by the medical men. The inspection is conducted in the IV Class, III Form and VI Form, and so not only many schools are left out, but many of the pupils of even the schools visited by the Medical Inspectors are not examined.

President.—So, only schools where we have the IV Class, III Form and VI Form are inspected?

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—Even the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer says in his report that the system is imperfect. There is no sufficient medical inspection in these schools.

Mr. C. Matthai.—It used to be the III Form and IV Class only. From next year forward, we have decided to examine the pupils of the I Class, IV Form and I Form.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I am glad to know that.

Another point which I wish to draw the attention of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer is want of unanimity in

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

inspection. One Lady Doctor's report shows that the girls in a certain Girls' School have very defective vision, and the percentage ranges from 69 to 95 per cent. And in another institution inspected by another Lady Doctor, the figures come to 15 to 17 per cent only. It is ridiculous to suppose that girls were suffering from a higher percentage of defective vision in a particular locality than in another locality.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—It is a local disease.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—But, Sir, there is a difference of nearly 40 per cent. Sir, now, ordinarily 15 minutes would be necessary for the medical examination of a child. But what I hear is only 2 or 3 minutes are taken for medical inspection of a child. For a doctor who has a wide practice and who has to examine 8 or 10 schools, it would require one or two months' time to examine a school, and therefore, unsatisfactory results are arrived at. Medical examination should be conducted in all schools, and a medical register should be maintained, and the defects found, after examination on the part of pupils, should be communicated to the parents concerned.

President.—This is a matter pertaining to the Education Department.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Parents are duly informed.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—Here I may say that, unless a doctor is appointed for 2 or 3 schools, this system will not work properly. With these remarks, I withdraw my motion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will you kindly tell me how this Rs. 2,000 provided under "purchase and repair of furniture" is going to be spent? Is it for the X-ray department alone?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—As regards the excess of Rs. 500 against that of last year, it is going to be utilised for the X-ray department.

President.—Is this Rs. 2,000 provided for one hospital or for all hospitals in the State? I think it is not for the X-ray department alone.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—This is for all the hospitals in the State. We want only Rs. 500 out of this for the X-ray department.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is that Rs. 500 for?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—We have only a bare building. There is no seating accommodation. This is for the purchase of 4 chairs, 4 benches, two office tables, one lead light almirah, one hospital couch, etc. This accounts for the excess over the previous year.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Motions Nos. 143—153.

Dr. A. G Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,68,785 under "Hospitals" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,49,151 under "Hospitals" by one rupee.*

Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,49,151 under "Hospitals" by Rs. 100.*

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,49,151 under "Hospitals" by one rupee.*

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—*To reduce the votable allotment of Rs. 1,68,785 for "Hospitals" by one rupee.*

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,75,800 under "Medical" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,93,500 under "Medical" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,75,800 under "Medical" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,75,800 under "Medical" by one rupee.*

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,93,500 under "Medical" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,75, 800 under "Medical" by Rs. 45,000.*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, I beg to propose a cut in the Medical Department by one rupee. It is unnecessary for me to say that I mean it only as a token motion to bring before you all the utterly unsatisfactory state of affairs in the Medical and Sanitary departments of our State. The budget session offers an opportunity for the discussion of public affairs, although we, the representatives of the people, may not be able to effect all that we want by such discussions alone. Yet by offering our criticism on the administration we are able to place before the Government the real grievances of the people that are yet to be redressed.

To begin with, let us see how much time the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has been able to devote to inspection work during the preceding three years. He himself gives the figures (vide Vol. II, part 5, page 362). In 1098, 69 days, in 1099, 68 days and in 1100, 49 days. Sir, I am sorry I am not in a position to give this year's figure. With a view to place before you the number of days for this year, I asked the Government an interpellation which never came before the Council. I requested the Government to place on the table a detailed account of the T. A. in the Medical Department, but to my surprise the account furnished was the distribution of T. A. to each of the hospitals of the State. So I am not in a position to say now. I wanted detailed

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

accounts so that I may find out how many days the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has not worked in the Hospital.

Diwan Bhadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That was not asked.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I do not complain. I asked for detailed accounts. So, I am unable to give the figure for this year now. From the above quoted figures, it is seen that the number of inspection days is gradually decreasing, though the medical and sanitation works are rapidly increasing year by year. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has candidly admitted before this House that the decrease in the number of inspection days is mainly due to his hands being full with hospital work at Ernakulam. We can very well realise his difficulty in the matter of devoting more time to administrative work.

But let us see how it is being done at home (in the General Hospital, Ernakulam). Sir, here I am obliged to use some plain language for sufficiently making you all realise the amount and acuteness of public feeling in the matter. It is sufficient here to say the work in the General Hospital has almost become a monopoly as in the days of Gunthers. I do not mean to say there is anything inherently bad in the father and son being in the same department and in the same place, in this case, in the same Hospital, assisted by the father's previous lieutenant. Sir, this is unknown in British India and Travancore.

But, certainly, this State of affairs is not conducive to the healthy administration of medical aid to the public, or to the development of originality or initiative in the individuals concerned. Probably, I may not be wrong in thinking that this may also be one of the reasons why the hands of the C. M. and S. O. are too full with hospital work to allow him sufficient time for inspection tours. Sir, I am informed in many cases of check-measuring, etc., of works in the Sanitary Department the C. M. and S. O. has delegated not merely his powers but, I suspect, his discretion as well, to his son and to '*his*' assistant. Not that there is anything absolutely bad in the procedure. But what is the necessity and justification for doing so, when there were fully qualified and senior Civil Surgeons close at hand to do such works? I leave you to draw your own inferences.

President.—Such delegation of powers was only in a few cases.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—But one case is enough. There are senior Civil Surgeons who could be entrusted with this work. The delegation of powers to his own son, to my mind, is not very laudable.

Now, coming to the constructive side, Sir, the only sure remedy, which I can think of for the evils referred to above, is

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the separation of functions. The function of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer should be *entirely administrative*, and he should be the chief adviser to the Government on Medical and Sanitary matters. He should not have anything to do with actual hospital work as in the sister State of Travancore—from which our Government quotes very often—I mean the Darbar Physician and not the present committee. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer must not be anything but an administrative officer.

President.—The Darbar Physician is the Head of the Medical Department. He has to do no hospital work. He is only in charge of the administrative work.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There is no hospital attached to him. He has purely administrative work. I may suggest that the superintendence of State prisons may also be profitably entrusted to such a full-timed administrative officer as in some other places. Always medical men are in charge of prisons. This is only a suggestion to give more work.

I need not tell you, Sir, that there is great inconvenience and hardship for want of '*Paying Wards*' in the General Hospital here and at Trichur. Lots of money are being spent in demolition, reconstruction, new construction and remodelling of our General Hospital to make it an ideal and up-to-date one. But I am surprised to see that the idea of providing even *bare accommodation* for paying patients has not as yet entered the heads of those who are in charge of reconstruction and administrative work. I have already sent in a resolution regarding this matter. But you all know of the possible fate of resolutions, etc., at the ballot. That is why I wish to take this opportunity of requesting the Government to remedy the defects at an early date.

With these few words, I request leave to withdraw the motion.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I beg to call the attention of the House to what I said last time, about the insufficiency of provision made for dietary charges and medicine charges. I think there also I can imagine where a Medical Officer asking for more supply when the Education and Public Works Members are asking the full income. The amount given to the Medical Department for dietary charges is only Rs. 55,000. From the statement published to-day by the Medical Officer, the patients have increased by leaps and bounds. It has risen to nearly four lakhs.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

The Hon'ble Member for the Medical Department has stated that nearly four lakhs of patients are attending the Hospital. Now, putting the average of 3 doses for three patients, it will come to 9 doses, and to meet this we must have 36 lakhs. I do not know how the department can manage with this small amount. It is impossible to carry on efficiently medical treatment with the present supply. I also want to draw your attention to the fact that medicines are given outside for private purposes. I went to a gentleman of eminent position who has been attended to by a Government doctor. He showed me a bottle with a label. I say "In-patient No. so and so" was noted on the bottle, but the patient was being treated in his own house. Now, I cannot conceive of a more awkward position of a medical man in charge of a hospital putting an imaginary number on the bottle supplied to one of his private patients. Such are the irregularities that are taking place in the hospitals. I do not know whether it is with the knowledge of the Head of the Department or not.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is only a single matter. The old label in the bottle might not have been rubbed off.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The bottle was handed over to me, and there were three doses remaining. Now, what I want to say is that the department must make it a principle that any doctor who gives one dose of medicine to a private man must be dismissed forthwith. It is a very grave affair, and it is the poor people that suffer. Such high handed actions are taking place in the General Hospital. If such things are taking place in the General Hospital itself, what will be the state of things in the Mofussil hospitals. Therefore, the time has come to take to task all those medical men who misuse their trust and position. Government medicines can be given with advantage to all, if there is a sufficient supply, and I have no objection. If we supply the rich men with medicine which ought to be given to the poor, we are doing an injustice to the poor by depriving them of their legitimate share. Those who are well-to-do should be in a position to know the agonies of the poor men who have to depend solely upon the charity of the Government. It is the duty of the person in whom the charge of the department is vested to take adequate steps to remedy these irregularities. It is only to impress this principle upon the Government that I brought this motion, and I have nothing against the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer or the department. I want only to stop the practice of giving medicines outside the hospital in this way. If, by any chance, a rich man comes to the hospital,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

he should be charged double more than what is charged by a private practitioner. And if such rigorous rules are insisted upon, rich men will clear out of the hospital, and the poor people can be welcomed. So the Head of the Department should take necessary measures for providing better facilities for the treatment of the poor.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Only one word, Sir. My object is to bring to the notice of the House the want of accommodation in hospitals, the poor diet that is being supplied to the patients and to the necessity of providing a larger supply of medicines to the Mofussil hospitals. Regarding want of accommodation in the Chalakkudi Hospital, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has written a long note in the Visitors' Book. In this Hospital where there is provision only for 12 beds, nearly 20 or 21 are generally admitted. The annual allowance for the supply of diet to patients is only Rs. 200. Just imagine how poor the supply for diet is. There is less than one rupee a day for supplying diet to 12 patients. That is less than 1 anna 4 pies a day for each patient.

And what is it that is generally done in these hospitals? They ask these poor people to find their own diet or give them *kanchi* water or adjust admission according to the provision for diet. In some of the hospitals in-patients are not admitted for want of accommodation and diet.

President.—So far as Chalakkudi is concerned, they need be supplied only with low diet, being fever patients.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That explanation is not right, Sir. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was asked about the difference observed in the charge of diet at Ernakulam and Chalakkudi. His explanation was that a larger number of surgical cases are to be attended to in Ernakulam than in Chalakkudi, and consequently the charge for diet is greater. But I am of opinion that medical diet is more costly than surgical diet.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V Verghese.—We have also got serious medical cases in the General Hospital.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Last year as well as this year the Medical Department was able to make both ends meet, because, in regard to the supply of medicine, they had not fully paid for during the respective years. The grant for 1101 was 24,000 rupees, and utilizing a saving of Rs. 8,000 from medicine, they have revised the figure spent at Rs. 30,000. For 1102 the Government grant for medicine is reduced from Rs. 75,000 to Rs. 68,000, and I do not know how the department is going to manage. In the Mofussil hospitals the average daily attendance of out-patients is 290. Sir, how is it possible for a doctor who

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

has to attend to the in-patients and to his domestic functions to attend on about three hundred out-patients every day. It is impossible. I would urge the Government to devote some attention for the improvement of the Mofussil hospitals also. I had sent up several questions regarding the inadequate supplies of medicine to the Mofussil hospitals. In Trichur and Ernakulam medicine can be had from medical shops, if they are able to pay. But the poor patients in the Mofussil can ill afford to pay, nor are medical shops kept in those localities. I, therefore, strongly urge that the supply of diet and medicine in Mofussil hospitals must be increased.

President.—The discussion on the Demand must be over by 3-45 p. m., and so you should adjust yourselves to important points as far as possible.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Sir, I shall, in the limited time allotted to me, briefly give my explanations on the comments made on the working of the department. I shall confine my attention to two important points. That is about the nursing system and the supply of medicines to the hospitals. Several Hon'ble Members have stated about the necessity of mending certain defects regarding nursing observed in the General Hospital and the other hospitals of the State. I am entirely one with them. It is only last year that the Government was pleased to sanction the appointment of six additional nurses, four in the General Hospital and two in the Trichur Civil Hospital. I am sure no one is more alive and keen with regard to the needs of the hospitals than the present Diwan himself. He knows that no efforts are lacking on my part to improve the existing condition of things in the various hospitals which will be carried out, as soon as funds are available.

As regards paying wards, I am in entire accord with the recommendation, because, in the first place, it will obviate the hostile criticism that is levelled against hospitals for treating well-to-do patients. With regard to the treatment of well-to-do patients, I may say that there is an increasing demand from them to get admission into the hospitals. There is also a large increase in the number of patients who attend the hospitals. The increase in the number of patients in some places is simply phenomenal, such as the Trippunittura Dispensary, from 8,000 to 18,000. In the General Hospital, Ernakulam, it has risen from 38 to 58 thousand. In Trichur, in Cranganur and everywhere, a remarkable increase in the number of patients is noticed. In the General Hospital as well as in the minor ones, well-to-do people are coming more and more to take advantage of the treatment. But, in the absence of any special accommodation for them, they

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

are admitted in the general ward together with pauper patients, and hence they are not charged for their treatment. I have also sent an order that people who can afford must be asked to diet themselves. This rule is being enforced in all the hospitals.

President.—Touch upon the point with regard to the administrative work of the C. M. & S. O. The time is very limited.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The Darbar Physician in Travancore is not put in charge of the General Hospital, and there he is also allowed to do private work.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Private practice is quite a different matter.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—But here the condition is quite different. The General Hospital is directly under the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, and when I took charge, I had special command that special attention should be paid to the administration of the General Hospital, as there was in the air a want of confidence. I have taken upon myself a portion of the professional work. As regards the separation of the duties, there seems no necessity, but I see no objection.

President.—The General Hospital, Madras, is also directly under the charge of the Surgeon-General. Now, we shall stop discussion.

The Demand for the Medical Department was put to the vote of the House and carried.

President.—The next Demand is No. XXVII—Public Works

Demand XXVII—Public Works—Rs. 9·17 lakhs.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 9,16,814 for the Public Works Department for the year 1102. Of this amount, Rs. 58,061 accounts for the expenditure on establishment. This is in excess of the revised budget by Rs. 1,511. This increase is due to the provision made for the staff, as they earn their increments during the year. It is to be noted that a sum of Rs. 17,000 goes in the shape of Travelling Allowance against the revised budget figure of Rs. 18,000. By some this may be considered as excessive, but it is not really so, for the nature of the works demand close supervision, and this cannot be obtained without travelling.

Under "Communications" a sum of Rs. 3,03,852 is asked for. The manner in which this is to be utilised is given clearly in the statements appended to the budget estimate for 1102. Among the original works figure prominently the opening of the new road from Vaniampara to Chelakkara, which is about 8 miles, another from Vellikulangara to Kodakara of the same

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

length, one between Palanji and Perunturuti and the road in Rameswaram in the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk. Of the bridges that we are constructing, the important one is the one across the Cheerakuli river. I had wanted to complete it this year, but due to the late arrival of the girders from Calcutta the works dragged on more than I anticipated. The work is anyway completed excepting repairs to embankments, putting up parapets and small works of a similar character.

The Member for Trichur complained on the bad condition of the Vaniampara road and its want of sufficient width in certain places. I may tell the House that the road is in a fair condition throughout, so far as the surface is concerned, with the exception of a few furlongs. We are also endeavouring to make the road wider and to stretch out the hair-pin curves.

Important among the special renewal works which will be taken up next year will be those for the Mungilmada road in the Chittur Taluk and the Kandassankadavu road in Trichur. We have also scheduled a sum of Rs. 4,000 for deepening the canal between Karanchira and Trichur for the convenience of the boat traffic.

In response to the demands of the people in the section, under "Buildings", I have provided Rs. 10,000 for the construction of a waiting shed in the ferry jetty at Ernakulam next year. Provision is also made for the construction of a Leper Asylum at Adur. This matter, I hope, has been sufficiently thrushed out during the last budget session and its desirability established. I hope, therefore, that the House will pass this item of expenditure without any further comment. The rest of our building activities confine mainly to the Educational Department. A building for the Girls' High School, Ernakulam, is seen scheduled. Those who have inspected the school would have felt the inadequacy of the accommodation there and the hardships to which the poor girls are put to every day. The present buildings are not suited for housing classes, and the temporary sheds which remain are defective from a sanitary point of view. It is, therefore, proposed to construct a good building for their use.

Another is the Government Trades School, Trichur. The present school consists of a group of temporary sheds badly jumbled together, and due to this reason, very inefficiently run. Of course, it is possible to do away with this new construction next year, but that would mean, in other words, that we are stifling that institution. Further, such institutions which deal in technical education should have buildings specially designed for them and not housed in any old building. This is according to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

modern ideas, and will answer for the alternative suggestion that it may be housed in the present Boys' High School in Trichur. In Nemmara it is proposed to construct accommodation for another 10 classes next year. The work is absolutely necessary, as the present classes are being held in badly ventilated temporary sheds.

In the matter of irrigation, the prominent works are Tannikkudam Project, Enamakkal Weir, and the *kole* protective works. I had described the first of them already before this House. I may tell you something in detail now about the Enamakkal Weir. You all know that, in 1099, the old dam at Enamakkal breached, exposing the *kole* lands to the action of the salt water from the sea. The question of the reconstruction of the damage at once cropped up, and with it the question of increasing the ventway. The matter was fully discussed in my report on the subject. The work in main consists of constructing an additional weir about 228 feet long on the Trichur side of the present weir to effect efficient drainage on lands adjoining Trichur. We have been watching the effects of this larger opening at the weir side and I must say that its performance has fully satisfied the objects of the design.

The protective works for *kole* cultivation have been in the air among Government circles for quite a long time, but the question had received an additional impetus, due to the failure of the *kole* crops last year. We have budgetted a sum of Rs. 25,000 for the work. As conceived at present, it would consist of deepening some channels in the *kole* lands wherever absolutely necessary and to pump the water to the *mundakan* and *virippu* lands situated at the outskirts of the lake. New engines may have to be bought for this purpose.

In the Chittur Taluk we are proposing to take up the second section of the Mulattara canal for improvements. The work would consist mainly of strengthening the embankments wherever they are weak and regrading the canals.

In the Mechanical and Electrical section, works which are prominent are under "Water Works". Provision for the construction of a storage, reservoir and a prime mover costing in all about Rs. 72,000 is made. Enhancing the capacity of our pumps is imperative to meet the growing demands of the town of Ernakulam and the prospective demand for Mattancheri.

After having gone through the main items of work proposed for next year, I shall deal briefly on what we have done, and what we would like to have done during the last years. In all the sections we hope we have done well, and have completed or started well in hand many of the works scheduled for this year.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

It would be a good record, if I bring to the notice of this House that we have constructed eight major highway bridges in the State and about eight foot-bridges across the canals in the Cochin-Kanayannur, Trichur and Talappalli Taluks, making in all about 16 bridges during the last 2 years. If I may say so, by way of comparison, we have done more bridges during the past two years than what was done probably during the last ten years. This shows the generous policy on 'Communications' followed by the Government, and will serve to dispel any delusions on the part of the Members of this House to the contrary.

Regarding buildings, we have constructed during the past two years about 15 schools containing in all about 120 class rooms. This high record was made possible, more due to economies effected in design than to the money invested on them. Our class rooms—now in permanent buildings—cost about Rs. 1,200 at the outside, but is often executed at about Rs. 1,000, while they were being constructed at costs ranging between Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 2,000 per class room. In this connection, I must thank my friend, the Director, for having closely co-operated with me in developing those designs. He has given me all help and support but for which it would have been impossible to effect these economies.

Regarding irrigation, we were not able to do some of the works scheduled for this year, but, Sir, it must be admitted that the progress of an irrigation scheme of any size at all is often hampered by many unforeseen contingencies. The Enamakkal Dam work should have been begun last year, but it was late in the day, when we received an estimate approved by the Madras Government. In the Nayarambalam canal work the sites were not handed over to us till about the end of Kanni, and final alignment had to be made and levels taken before the work could be started. Such are delays which look as if they are unavoidable now, but they creep in nevertheless.

Motions Nos. 163—187.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 35,687 for "Establishment" by one rupee.*

Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,000 for "T. A." by Rs. 100.*

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 86,614 for "Establishment" by Rs. 1,614.*

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 86,614 for "Establishment" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,25,800 for "Communications—Original" by one rupee.*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,25,800 for "Communications—Original Works" by one rupee.*

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for "Maintenance of Trippunittura Town Roads," item 55 of page xxviii of Appendix B.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,05,552 for "Communications-Total" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,05,552 for "Communications" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 30,000 for constructing building for the "Government Trades School, Trichur" (Vide Appendix B—xxxiii).*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 30,000 for "constructing building for the Government Trades School, Trichur" (No. 173 of Appendix B).*

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,95,994 for "Buildings—Original Works" by one rupee.*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for "Improvements to the Trichur Civil Hospital" by one rupee.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,15,239 for "Buildings (Total)" by one rupee.*

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,15,239 for "'Buildings" by Rs. 82,937.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,15,239 for "Buildings" by Rs. 1,190.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for "Tannikkudam Project," No. 218 (a) of Appendix B.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,47,982 under "Irrigation" by Rs. 1,000.*

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,47,982 under "Irrigation" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 72,000 for "Masonry Reservoir" and Rs. 37,000 for "Purchase of Locomobile Engine and its erection".*

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 72,000 for "Masonry Reservoir and Purchase of Locomobile Engine and its erection".*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 for "Water Works" by Rs. 72,000.*

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,675 for "Miscellaneous" by one rupee.*

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,675 for "Miscellaneous" by one rupee.*

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,221 for "Canals and Backwaters Navigation" by one rupee.*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I want to know what is meant by a tea-house.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—A tea—house is a small shed put up in gardens of buildings for resting in the evenings.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—After how many years shall we have to retile a building ?

President.—It need not be done every now and then. At the first time, it will be all right. But when it gets into disrepair, you will have to do it.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I find here an item of expenditure for re-tiling this hall. May I know how many years before this work was done?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Five years ago. This item is called re-tiling of the Rama Varma Town Hall. The tiles are leaking. The tiles are of an inferior quality.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—There is an item here of 72,000 rupees. There is a cut motion in my name. Will you kindly tell me what is the amount for ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—This amount is to be utilized for enhancing the capacity of the pumps in Chowwara.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is it for the use of Ernakulam alone, or for any other purpose? What I want to say is this. Is this expenditure to be incurred for supplying water to Ernakulam alone without giving anything to Mattancheri ? If so, certainly, we are going to divide on the matter. We are going to raise an emphatic protest for not giving water to Mattancheri. I can always prove of statement by made me, although it is not proper to say who the sinner is. I am more than satisfied that a large quantity of water is being wasted by being used for gardening purposes and for bathing, etc. If you are going to spend this 72,000 rupees for Ernakulam alone, I think I cannot but oppose this motion.

President.—Is there not a scheme to supply water to Mattancheri ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is now taken up.

President.—The amount of 72 thousand rupees or any portion thereof—can it not be utilized for such purpose, or is it only for Ernakulam alone ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is imperative that we should enhance the capacity of the pumps, if we contemplate the taking up of the Mattancheri water supply scheme.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—You are right. We do not care to spend a lakh or two. If you are not going to make arrangements for supplying water to Mattancheri and spend this amount for adding luxuries to the people of Ernakulam, people representing other parts here will, I am sure, oppose this motion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is for the purpose of doubling the capacity of the pump at Chowwara and not for adding luxuries to the people of Ernakulam, as the Hon'ble Member for the Irinjalakkuda Constituency seems to think. If the capacity is not increased, I am afraid the people of Ernakulam, instead of enjoying 'luxuries', would be starving for water. You have to take into consideration that also. Suppose a machine comes to a stand still, we have to be prepared with another set of plant. If one goes wrong, we have at once to work the other.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We have now a complete duplication of machinery at Chowwara. This 72 thousand rupees is required mainly for enhancing the capacity of the pumps.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I know whether this expenditure cannot be met by the Municipality? I think it should bear the burden, which they will not be able to do under existing conditions, if they do not introduce a meter system. We cannot continue extending favours to certain people who refuse to be guided by good advice.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Can we do away with this 72 thousand rupees, if the meter system is introduced ?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—There is the water tax, but that is not sufficient to meet the working expenditure.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will there be any increase in the water rate, if this money is spent, so far as Ernakulam is concerned ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No. Nothing is now contemplated.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The Municipality must raise the water tax. If they are not going to do that, I think the Government should have control over that. I submit the Chief Engineer should hand it over to somebody else.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—I remember the Ernakulam Municipality was prepared to take up the work.

President.—It was not considered proper to entrust such a big work to the Municipality.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—It was not the fault of the Municipality.

President.—They have to pay this 80 thousand rupees still, and then the Municipal Chairman says, if that is entrusted to them, they would be unable to pay the same. Adjustment will have to be made. That is a matter for which we are not responsible.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Another point. If it is, however, proposed to give water to Mattancheri, then increasing the capacity of the pump is essential so that, in any case, we would be going only in the right direction.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know whether water would be given to Mattancheri, after all ?

President.—That is the point.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—From this 72 thousand rupees, will you have to spend any amount for the purpose of supplying water to Mattancheri?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The question is that of transporting water to Mattancheri. That question remains unsolved. We have got quotations from certain leading firms. It would cost roughly two rupees per thousand gallons for transporting water to Mattancheri. The Municipal Chairman of Mattancheri was of opinion that about one lakh 25 thousand gallons of water would be needed every day. At the rate of two rupees per thousand gallons, the cost would come to about 72 thousand rupees every year.

Pesident.—72 thousand rupees for transport purposes alone every year ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes, Sir, as per the present scheme of transportation by barges.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—The question, Sir, is like this. Mattancheri asked for water; all the non-official Members of this House supported it; and the Government also made us to understand that we would be given water. The Government called for tenders for transport of water, and they received quotations at the rate of Rs. 2 per thousand gallons.. What I say is, if the Government are pleased to spend lakhs and lakhs of rupees for Ernakulam alone, it is a matter of surprise for us how the Government think otherwise of Mattancheri, where you see all sorts of diseases. I need not name them. So what I ask is this :— If the Government are willing to transport water, the matter of distribution may be left in the hands of the Municipal Council. It might cost 40 thousand or 50 thousand rupees. I think the Government should not think of that. If the Government can make a gift of it to Ernakulam, why should Mattancheri be deprived of the benefits thereof ? We are all His Highness the Maharaja's subjects, and we all claim to be treated alike.

President.—Is the amount here provided simply for enhancing the capacity of the pump? There will be water available for distribution in Mattancheri. You have only to make arrangements. For that you will have to provide money.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

To give effect to this resolution and supply water to the Mattancheri people, you will have to provide 72 thousand rupees.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—If it is only a less quantity, say, two gallons per head for drinking purposes alone, then it will come to 30 thousand rupees every year for transport.

President.—Suppose we levy some tax. Ernakulam gets only 8 thousand rupees.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—In Cochin you will get more.

President.—We are going to supply hydrants. They may require house-connections and all that.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Of course, you will get some amount.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The point will be, if we collect tax, the amount may be just enough to supply water for drinking purposes alone.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Do not tax much. Then, the proceeds therefrom will not amount to much.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—How do you justify this position? When we complained in this Council and moved a resolution, the Government assured us that the first item of expenditure incurred by the Government would be to supply water to Mattancheri, and now the Chief Engineer coolly comes forward, and tables a demand for 72 thousand rupees for an unforeseen item of expenditure that might take place in the distant future. Why this differential treatment?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There was water scarcity in Ernakulam last year. If we do not make this demand of 72 thousand rupees, I am sure there will be water neither for Ernakulam nor for Mattancheri.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—No wonder there was scarcity of water last year. If there is any tank or well, people think of filling it up and planting cocoanut trees. Alwaye water—precious Alwaye water—is now being used for watering cocoanut trees, washing cooking utensils, bathing and gardening.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is jealousy. Ernakulam alone is enjoying good Alwaye water, and it is sufficient reason to provoke jealousy. We ourselves were the first to vote for giving water to Mattancheri, and Members said that, wherever we spend Alwaye water unnecessarily, that water should be given to Mattancheri, and all that. It is only jealousy. We are quite at one with the needs of Mattancheri.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—For transporting water, we will vote for any amount of money. It is the duty of the Government to do it. Let the Government bring in a demand for any amount.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

We will grant it, because we cannot grudge the expenditure especially, when it is to a town, which is most insanitary on account of the wants of a good supply of water.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What can the people of Ernakulam do with the tanks and wells, which are not of any use to them, except to fill them up and plant cocoanut trees ?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That is a very good criterion from which to view things.

President.—You may have the necessary quantity of water for supplying to Mattancheri. But the point is how to take it to the other side. Of course, now, so far this provision of Rs. 72,000 is concerned, shall we be able to have any portion of it spent for transport purposes ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The increasing of the capacity of the pump is essential. There is no divided opinion on that.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We will have to vote for money for transport charges.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Last time it was said by the Chief Engineer that 40,000 to 60,000 rupees can be given.

President.—We want to enhance the capacity of the pump. Otherwise, neither Ernakulam nor Mattancheri can have water.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Some more money may be spent.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I want to know the intention of the Government, whether they could not provide some decent amount for this transport work, at least, next year. If not, an additional grant may now be passed.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—By next year, I think it can be done.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why not take a supplementary grant this year ?

Mr. C.A. Ouseph.—It will not be in order. I don't think we have power to increase this budget which has been placed before the Finance Committee. We can only vote for it or reduce the expenditure.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We have power to omit or to reduce. That is the right of the House. But it is the right of the Government to ask for more.

President.—The budget as placed before us did not contain any such provision. Then, how could the Government provide that.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—That is a very large question.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The rules do not allow it. During the course of the discussion, suppose we find some expenditure necessary. Then, can we include it in the budget ? It is not a

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

question of omission or reduction. It is not an addition or any other thing as that it is not strictly proper according to the rule.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—But that does not create any difficulty. Under one head, a certain amount is granted. There are several items. With regard to the tarnsfer of items, the President has power.

President.—I think some such thing may be necessary. The Chief Engineer must, however, transfer them for this purpose, and, if necessary, we may place before you supplementary grants, when occasion arises.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—A reservoir has to be constructed between Alwaye and Ernakulam. Of course, for that we have to hold correspondence with the Tranvancore Darbar.

President.—What is the provision made?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—35,000 rupees.

President.—For the time being, transfer the amount.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Can we, after all, hope for water?

President.—Yes.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—Thank you very much, Sir. (*Hear, hear.*)

Dr. A. R. Menon.—30,000 rupees for a Trades School. Will the Hon'ble Member for Education please give us some information as to the necessity for this item of expenditure, what purpose is served, etc.?

Mr. C. Matthai.—The Trades School is a very important institution especially under present conditions, when we are emphasising the necessity and importance of industrial education. I think the Central Trades School is an important institution, and that gentlemen who go there will understand clearly that it is very unsatisfactorily housed now. The building in fact is a dwelling house. It was acquired by the Government, and the inconvenience of it has been felt very strongly for a long time past, and it is increasing, as the years roll by.

President.—Are not those two buildings ours? Or, are we giving rent?

Mr. C. Matthai.—The Trades School is ours. There is another school for girls housed in a rented building. The Commercial School is also rented. We have to pay rent for all these. We are now paying more than 60 rupees in the shape of rent per month, and the idea was to put up a building according to modern ideas and suitable for the requirements of an Industrial and Technical School, and the building used by the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Government Trades School could be used by the Girls' Industrial School.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is it such an absolute necessity? Is it worth while to spend such a large amount, especially, when we are grudging to supply drinking water to Mattancheri?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I do not believe that there can be any doubt that the Government Trades School is a very useful institution. If we look into the working of the school, we shall be more than convinced that it is serving a really useful purpose. It serves as a training ground for industrial and commercial students. I was trying to explain the other day how the High Schools at Trichur were introducing commercial and industrial subjects into their curriculum of instruction. All these students go to the Government Trades School for practical training so that, if we are going to develop the practical side of our High Schools, it is absolutely necessary to have an efficient Central Trades School. Trichur is growing to be a very important educational centre. We have already 4 High Schools for boys, two for girls and a Training School. The Industrial Schools can be utilised for the practical training of these students so that they function more than as mere industrial schools. They benefit also other institutions. Last year and this year we have been deputing teachers for industrial training to these schools so that we may introduce these industries in literary schools also. These teachers are being trained in the Industrial Schools at Trichur so that they have a many-sided usefulness. So I doubt, if we should grudge this item of expenditure.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Can we not locate it in a Sirkar building?

Mr. C. Matthai.—It is built on a different plan altogether, and when we discussed that subject last year, viz., the desirability of abolishing the Sirkar High School at Trichur, I told this House last year that the Education Department was in favour of the abolition. But we had to give up the idea out of deference to public opinion. I do not know whether we should go back to that question again.

Then, there is also another point to be placed before this House. Trichur is growing to be such an important educational centre with so many educational institutions. The local Sirkar High School is a proper field for any special work that you have got to do, any new plan of work to be introduced. You may know that we are trying certain experimental plans of work. We cannot progress, unless we make experiments of this kind so that we may keep in line with progressive methods of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

teaching, and we have chosen the Sirkar High School as a suitable place for such work, and the results obtained and the experience gained there could be made use of by all the surrounding institutions. It has also the advantage of being the educational head-quarters of the State. The Senior Inspector and myself are there. We could see what is going on there. In that way, I think, apart from imparting Scondary Education to the large number of students that are attending the school, it has also another side of useful activity. At one time we ourselves were considering the desirability of abolishing the institution. And as I said, it was purely out of deference to popular opinion that we desisted. There were three other High Schools for boys, and then, I was asked to close the Sirkar High School, as it was considered a superfluity, and I was prepared to do so. The demand was then made by the authorities of the other schools that they should be provided with funds for putting up additional accommodation. There is no argument, therefore, in saying that by giving up the Sirkar High School the Government will be saving funds to put up a new building for the Industrial School. There are 600 boys now accommodated in this institution. So I am strongly of opinion that the Sirkar High School, Trichur, should on no account be abolished under existing conditions.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know how much money was spent for the acquisition of the present site of the G. T. School?

President.—That was purchased from Mr. Gunther. 12,000 and odd. It must be something like that.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes, Sir. We paid him 12,000 and odd.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—That is with regard to the other building opposite the Museum.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—No, no.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—That is the new site. I refer to the G. T. School which is now located in Mr. Gunther's building. What was the amount that was spent for the acquisition of that?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I am not quite sure. It must be about 10,000 rupees.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I think it was about 17,000.

President.—It was purchased during Mr. Bhore's time by private negotiations. It was not acquired.

Mr. C. Matthai.—It must be somewhere about 10 or 12,000.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—It seems to have been less than 12,000.

President.—Let us go on with the cut motions.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I don't want to press the motion.

President.—Mr. Poulo Mampilli absent. Then "Establishment-total", Mr. Nunez.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I don't want to press the motion. There is a Special Finance Committee. That will be done by that Committee. I withdraw my motion.

President.—Mr. A. Sankara Puduval and Mr. C. Achyuta Menon are absent. Mr. Ambooken.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Sir, I have tabled this motion to draw the attention of the Government to the matter of opening new roads in the rural areas of the State. It is a real wonder to me why the Government is so very grudging in spending for such an important item as this. In my opinion, this is to be considered as the most important and useful function of the Government towards the tax-payers in the rural parts. Opening new roads will not only improve the condition of trade, but also improve agriculture and many other items in general. So, what I want to impress upon this House is that the provision you make for this item is quite inadequate, and therefore, I strongly request the Government to pay their special attention to this matter.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph. – Sir, in this connection, I may bring to the attention of the House the disparity of the length of the roads between the several taluks. Chittur 106, Mukundapuram 70, Trichur 130, Kanayannur 140, Talappalli 90, Mukundapuram and Talappalli are the biggest taluks. There they are only 70 and 90, while in Trichur it is 130 and in Chittur, the smallest 106, so that I would draw the attention of the Government to the fact that in Mukundapuram and Talappalli several miles of new roads must be opened.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken. – It is the Adur constituency that has no roads at all. It is due to that that Mukundapuram has no roads.

President.—We have got a programme of work each year. Between Chelakkara and Vadakkancheri we are opening a road, and from Kodakara to Vellikulangara also we are having roads opened. All could not be opened at one and the same time.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The reason why there are not many roads in the Mukundapuram Taluk is that it is such a fertile place. A good portion of the area is covered by paddy fields. There are forests also.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—It is there that the Government should lay their strong hand. There is real necessity for roads. The Chief Engineer accepts it is a fertile land.

President.—How is it, Dr. Govinda Menon, you wish to have some roads ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We have also not many roads (*Laughter*). Nemmara is far away from Trichur. There are many hills and dales. That is one of the reasons why there are not sufficient roads.

President.—Have you complained that the roads in your taluk are not enough ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Well, certainly. Even without roads we take our cars.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I accept the statement, while I appreciate the compliment conferred upon my constituency that it is a fertile constituency. I believe that these parts are anxious to have a number of roads. It has been my invariable practice in this House not to press the claim of my own constituency, and I never put a question regarding my constituency. It usually happens that those who put a number of questions to the Heads of Departments get something. I never trouble them, and I realise my folly. Unless something is done to my constituency, I will also have to fire them with a series of questions.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—We are in need of a large number of roads. In my village, that is, Trikkur, for a road of 3 or 4 furlongs in length Rs. 16,500 were spent for giving up the idea of continuing the scheme. My request is that at least the surplus of the allotted amount ought to have found a place in the budget, or at least the road may be handed over to us.

President.—The abandoned road won't serve any purpose at all.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The road on which we spent a large amount will serve a really useful purpose, if the surplus of the allotted amount is spent on it. Our people promised to give security, if the road was handed over to them with the said surplus amount. They said they would maintain the road. They were not allowed.

President.—For what reason ?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In the reply given, no reason was mentioned.

President.—I myself have travelled through that road.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I have to request the Chief Engineer and the Diwan to visit the place now during the time of flood.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

President.—Now, of course, it is very difficult. People will find it extremely difficult to pass from one side to the other.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I have received information that a rich young Christian died yesterday, simply because he was not able to take a doctor to the other side on account of floods.

President.—Is there no ferry system? The old road is rather abandoned, and has gone out of order. Of course, that road cannot be put to any use. Even, if it is improved, during monsoon time, you may find it difficult to pass through.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Our purpose will be served, if the surplus of the allotted amount is spent.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I won't advise the Government to construct a new road. In place of that, we have proposed to metal the old road, so that there will be some means of communication served by this line.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—My constituency, I think, is poorer than the Adur constituency in the matter of roads.

President.—In the Talappalli Taluk?

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—Especially, my constituency.

President.—From Chelakkara to Vaniampara, is there not a road?

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—That is mostly in the Trichur Taluk.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The western part of the Talappalli Taluk was referred to by the Member.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—I may also bring to your notice that my constituency had to stop the Diwan on his way at Mattom. I understand his car was planted on account of the nature of the road. I am very sorry to state that fact here. That shows the nature of the roads in my constituency.

President.—I went through Mattom. The road was in a very bad condition. But my car was not planted.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—I was told that so many people had to push the car, etc.

President.—Of course, in some places, it stuck.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—That is generally seen to be the nature of the Panchayat roads. That is due to want of funds.

President.—We shall pass on to "Communications total" ——Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Sir, my object in tabling this motion is to draw the attention of the Government to the conditon of the Railway level crossings throughout the State. I

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

need hardly give a description. It must be known to all of you. They are invariably very narrow.

President.—On the main public roads?

Mr. E Ikkanda Wariar.—Invariably there will be a curve also. They are usually on an ascent.

President.—There is a level crossing at Alwaye.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Most of these level crossings cause a great deal of inconvenience to the people, invariably in country parts where gate-keepers shut the gates some times half an hour or sometimes more than half an hour before the train comes. If bullock carts are waiting to cross the level crossings, as they often do, one travelling in a faster vehicle will have to wait for an inconveniently long time to pass it. It is high time that the Government should take some steps in the matter.

The next point to which I wish to draw the attention of this House is the practice of collecting metals on the sides of the roads. I do admit that the roads are comparatively much better than they were three or four years ago. I have no complaint on that score. But towards the major part of the year, that is, from Vrischigam to Karkadagam, half the roads or nearly a quarter-which are already too narrow-will be occupied by the metals. I would respectfully suggest to the Government to acquire lands-bits of lands-here and there or to stock these metals in rented places. They can very easily get lands on lease. It is not always that they require places for collection of the materials, and whenever they require, they can very easily get lands at very cheap rates and conveniently collect these matals there. It is to draw the attention of the House to these two facts that I have tabled this motion. I do not press this motion.

President.—"Original works"—Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I move to omit an allotment of Rs. 30,000 for the G. T. School. I am in agreement with the Government that industrial education is necessary for the progress of the country. But I do not believe that the building of Industrial Schools is the way for industrial progress. The present buildings are sufficiently accommodative, and we can afford to wait for some time without a new construction. With these words, I move for the omission of that item.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, I support the motion. The Member for Education was remarking that some rent was being paid—about 65 rupees for locating some departments of the G. T. School. It is true, but are there not many other departmental activities conducted in places rented by the Government? For example, are there buildings for the District Magistrate's Court and the Sub-Magistrate's Court at Trichur ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Yes.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Where? No. They are hired buildings—Mr. Kohlhoff's buildings—as old as the institution itself. I know the difficulties that the people who have to go there experience. And then, there are two Divisional Forest Offices. The office at Trichur is in a rented building. Now, the G. T. School has a building of its own. We can have some extensions there.

President.—Have you seen the inside of that? No scope for extension at all.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—There is absolutely no compound. It is surrounded by a sort of *pandals*.

President.—Big building. It is more suitable for residential purposes rather than for school purposes.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—There are *pandals*.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I shall supply you with some figures. The number of students has increased from 292 to 363. Thus there is an increase of 72 students in the G. T. School, Trichur, this year. That shows accommodation is necessary.

President.—Mr. Aravindaksha Menon was very careful. I have given credit to him for being a cautious man. He says that such a building should be put up.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—That is my sincere conviction.

President.—This was a matter on which we spent very great thought, and we came to the conclusion that the expenditure was absolutely necessary.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Why can't the Trichur Sirkar High School be utilised?

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Where are they to go?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Is it a work of such urgent nature? Can it not be postponed for a little while?

President.—We consider it to be a work of urgent nature.

Mr. C. Matthai.—The urgency is greater, Sir, in the case of the Girls' Industrial School. There was really no room for the work to be carried out; we had sanction for the Needle-work department, cutting tables, and so on. When I went there, there was no cutting work done. I asked the Supervising Mistress. She said that there was no place.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I had sent a motion. I do not press it.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I withdraw the motion.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I want to say something on Irrigation under "Original Works".

President.—We have not come to that.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Sir, I tabled this motion to draw the attention of the House to the present condition of the Court-houses throughout the State. Excepting the Chief Court, the District Court and the Additional Court at Ernakulam and the District Court at Trichur, all the other Courts—as you are aware, Sir, more than any one else—are in a very bad condition.

President.—In Vadakkancheri ?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—There are not sufficient buildings. They are ill-ventilated, and there will be no light during rains. It will be very inconvenient during summer to sit there. I think it is high time that the Government should look into it.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I withdraw.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—To drink tea is bad. To encourage it is worse. I do not know whether Krishna Vilas requires such a costly expenditure.

President.—Not for drinking tea. What is it that you want ?

Mr. T. A. Ramchandra Ayyar.—Nothing, Sir. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir. I move the omission of the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for the Tannikkudam Project. This House has ever been alert in the matter of irrigation. This House realises that the salvation of Cochin—of the majority of the people of Cochin who are agriculturists—lies in irrigation and irrigation alone. This House has also realised that. For a long time past the Government has been showing great indifference in developing irrigation. There is no officer at present in the State who is responsible for irrigation. Sir, under these circumstances, it is certainly glad tidings to see that at last Government have put their hands to the wheel, and is developing a project which they hope would be a success. If what the Chief Engineer has assured us is right, if what he has assured us is going to take place, then, certainly, the scheme is commendable. But, Sir, the people of Cochin have long been used to schemes, some of which were taken up and turned out to be failures, and some of which were shelved. You cannot blame the people of Cochin, if they look upon all schemes with suspicion. We realise that, along with us, you also look upon all scheme with considerable doubt. That is glad news. But, Sir, you have budgetted for Rs. 10,000 to be spent on the Tannikkudam Project. We are not against it, but we want to inform the Government that the Government must make their steps sure and the ground certain before any forward step is taken We are absolutely in the dark regarding this scheme. But as regards the prospect of the scheme being a success, we are

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

still in doubt, in spite of what the Chief Engineer has told us. In making this motion, I only wish to recommend to the Government that an irrigation expert should investigate the whole scheme before work is started in pursuance of the scheme. I believe it is a very big scheme. The Hydro-Electric Scheme must cost us a lot. There have been many schemes which have cost us dearly. Let this not be one like those. In the interests of the people, in the interests of the Government themselves, I pray that the whole scheme may be referred to an expert before it is taken up.

President.—That is our idea.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Very glad to hear that, Sir.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I think I told the House it will be examined by an expert. A portion of this Rs. 10,000 will go for that.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Before starting the work, the expert has to see that.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes. Certainly.

President.—The scheme will be undertaken only, if the expert tells us that it will be a success.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Preliminary work is all over. The work has to be started that is all. Before we start work, what is the necessity for budgetting Rs. 10,000 ?

President.—Rs. 10,000 is not intended for that. A portion of it will go to that.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I withdraw the motion, Sir.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—The Regulation of the boat service is even more necessary than the Regulation of the bus services. The people rely upon it as much as they rely upon the train services, and the unhealthy competition causes a lot of trouble to the people.

President.—You refer to the motor services ?

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—Motor boat and steam boat services, Sir.

President.—Is there competition ?

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—There is unpleasant competition there.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Our rules do not provide fixed time for boats. We are sending a revised set of rules, and further we have not jetties enough for handling all the traffic. Now, in the Ernakulam shores alone, boats are using about 4 jetties.

Before that we had only a central jetty, and we are now going to construct a waiting shed for people's convenience, and have allotted Rs. 10,000 for that. It is improper to fix a time for these boats.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—It is not the ferry line that I refer to. I am referring to the Kottappuram—Alleppey line.

As it was 5 p. m., the whole Demand under "Public Works" was put to votes, and it was allowed by the House.

The maximum time allotted for Demand XXVII having expired the following motions were considered to have lapsed.

Motions Nos. 188 to 192.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 11,45,300 under "Public Works" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,45,300 under "Public Works" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 11,45,300 under "Public Works" by Rs. 100.*

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 11,45,300 under "Public Works" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 11,45,300 under "Public Works" by Rs. 300.*

The time prescribed by the Diwan for Voting of Demands for Grants being over at 5 p. m., the President, under Rule 49 (3) put to the House the following Demands :—

No. XXII	**Vaccination**	**Rs. 8,800**
No. XXIII	**Sanitation and Conservancy**	**„ 50,900.**
No. XXV	**Stationery and Printing**	**„ 99,200.**
No. XXIX	**Scientific, etc, Department**	**„ 90,100.**
No. XXXI	**Miscellaneous**	**„ 15,402.**

All the Demands were agreed to without any alteration. The following motions in connection with them were considered to have lapsed for want of time.—

Demand No. XXII—Sanitation and Conservancy—Rs. ·51 lakh.

Motion Nos. 154—161.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,848 for "Government contribution to Municipal Councils" by one rupee.*

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,816 for "Establishment" by Rs. 360.*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 27,096 for "Rural Sanitation" by one rupee.*

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 59,900 under "Sanitation and Conservancy" by Rs. 200.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 50,900 under "Sanitation and Conservancy" by one rupee.*

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 50,900 under "Sanitation and Conservancy" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 27,096 under "Sanitation and Conservancy" by one rupee.*

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 50,900 under "Sanitation and Conservancy" by one rupee.*

Demand No. XXV—Stationery and Printing—Rs. ·99 lakh.

Motion No. 162.

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 99,200 under "Stationery and Printing" by Rs. 200.*

Demand No. XXIX—Scientific, etc., Department—Rs. ·9 lakh.

Motions Nos. 193—197.

Mr. C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 90. 00 for "Scientific, etc., Department" by one rupee.*

Srimati T. Madhavi Amma.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 90,100 for "Scientific, etc , Department" by Rs. 5.*

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 90,100 for "Scientific, etc , Department" by Rs, 25,000.*

Mr. M.K. Raman.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 90,100 under "Scientific, etc., Department" by one rupee.*

Demand No. XXXI—Miscellaneous=Rs. ·15 lakh.

Motion No. 198.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for "Miscellaneous and un foreseen charges."*

The Cranganur Budget.

The President next put to the House the following Demands in the Cranganur budget :—

	Rs.
No. I.—Land Revenue	10,126
No. IV—Excise	2,890
No. V—Stamps	1,310
No. VI—Registration	2,082
No. VII—Anchal	1,285
No. VIII—General Administration	1,390
No. IX—Law and Justice	8,820
No. X—Jails	300
No. XI—Police	7,680
No. XII—Education	51,423
No. XIV—Medical	2,792
No. XV—Vaccination	520
No. XVI—Sanitation and Conservancy	4,080

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

	Rs.
No. XVIII—Public Works	**11,495**
No. XX—Stationery	**600**
No. XXI—Industries	**2,177**

The above grants were allowed by the House without any alteration.

The following motions on the Cranganur budget were deemed to have lapsed for want of time :

Demand No. XVIII—Public Works—Rs. 11 lakh.

Motions Nos. 1 and 2.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,500 for improving the roadway on the bank of the Kollikkattara canal.*

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,700 for constructing a compound wall for the High School, Cranganur.*

President's concluding speech.

President.—The last item in the statement of business for the 10th and final day of the budget session is the concluding speech by the President. We have had so many speeches, speeches both long and short, during these 10 days of the session. Let me, however, have the honour of making the shortest speech during this budget session, and that speech is—the business of the session having been brought to a close, the Council is prorogued.

There is one request by Dr. A. G. Menon requesting my permission to thank the President, and I allow his request.

Thanking of the President.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, on behalf of the non-official Members of this House, I beg to rise to offer you, Sir, as our President, our heartfelt felicitations and thanks for the successful manner in which you conducted the deliberations of this, the second budget session, of our Legislative Council. We are aware, Sir, that yours is a very difficult position. As the head of the executive administration in the State, you are responsible to His Highness, our benign Maharaja, and as our President, to this Council.

In your conduct of the deliberations of this Council, you showed considerable anxiety to place before the Council as much information as was possible to collect in regard to the working of the different departments of the State, and I make bold to say that, in doing so, you have even gone out of your way, sometimes to question and cross question some of your Heads of Departments from the very floor of this House. Whenever any non-official Member, in the course of the discussion

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly